

Scoping out the situation

Spouses get a shot at training during Camp Hansen's Jane Wayne Day **Page 3**



'Soloist' star Downey just enjoying the ride

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Robert Downey Jr.



STARS AND STRIPES®

Volume 68, No. 17 ©SS 2009 J

MONDAY, MAY 4, 2009

ISSN 1541-0511 Second-class postage paid at Fort Monmouth, NJ 07824-2000
Postage: \$0.50 U.S. and possessions
\$0.70 Canada
\$1.00 elsewhere

50¢



The piracy fight

What role should the U.S. military play in Somalia?

BY JOHN VANDIVER
Stars and Stripes

STUTTGART, Germany — It's arguably the most dangerous country in the world and a place that seethes with hostility toward the United States, but as the White House mulls how to deal with Somalia and the pirates who operate there, it must determine whether U.S. troops have a role to play in bringing stability.

If the U.S. military were to get involved, it could be in the form of helping Somalia's fledgling transitional government build its own security forces — U.S. Africa Command's specialty.

U.S. troops as trainers with boots on the ground in Somalia?

That would be a disaster, according to some Somalia observers, who contend it would delegitimize in the eyes of the Somalis the very transitional government the U.S. is trying to support.

However, AFRICOM's deputy for military operations, Vice Adm. Robert T. Moeller, disagrees. While emphasizing that there is no decision or plan at the moment to launch such a training initiative, Moeller said Friday, "I think we can work our way through that and have an ongoing dialogue with the government as well as the population overall."

For nearly two decades, Somalis have been living in near anarchy: Rival clans and warlords have carved out territory and chaos has opened the door for Islamic extremist groups to put down roots.

SEE SOMALIA ON PAGE 2



Moeller

Iraqis restrain an unconscious man believed to be an attempted suicide bomber Friday outside a mosque in Kirkuk, Iraq. A young man wearing a suicide belt was captured when he tried to blow himself up amid worshippers in a Shiite mosque, police said.

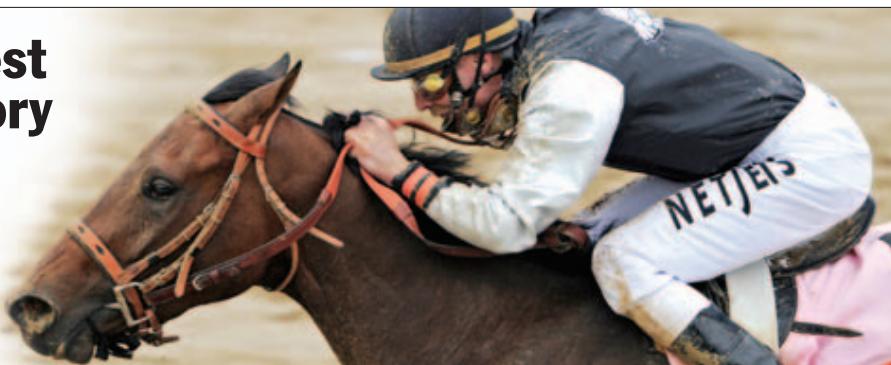
Syrian would-be bomber caught in Iraq

Guards captured attacker as he approached a Shiite mosque in Kirkuk **Page 6**

Second-biggest upset in history

Calvin Borel rides Mine That Bird to Kentucky Derby win at 50-1 odds

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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"We wanted to make the undocumented workers the protagonists, to give them a voice."

—Alonzo Barron Ortiz, an organizer of one of the many immigration law reform marches to take place across the U.S. over the weekend

See story on Page 7

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COMING TOMORROW



Scene on Sunday

Karatsu Castle, Japan

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SOMALIA, FROM PAGE 1

While chaos reigns, pirates flourish.

Currently, al-Shabaab, a group of Islamic hard-liners with al-Qaida links, controls portions of the country in the south and central regions. Still, al-Shabaab has been losing some of its influence in the country, particularly after the departure of Ethiopian troops in January.

But, some analysts say, one thing that could make the group more attractive is the perception that outsiders are meddling.

"There is no role for [the U.S. military] there," said Ken Menkhaus, a Somalia expert from Davidson College near Charlotte, N.C. He calls for more diplomatic engagement in a region long dominated by an emphasis on counterterrorism operations.

Ultimately, any direct involvement by the U.S. military on the ground in Somalia — even if it's exclusively in the form of training Somali security forces — would have the effect of undermining the fragile unity government in Mogadishu, he said. If the government is going to win broader support among people deeply suspicious of Westerners, then it must not be viewed as a puppet, he said.

Menkhaus also says hitting pirate sanctuaries on shore would have little long-term impact on the problem and could make conditions on the ground worse.

"It would be a windfall for al-Shabaab if we start killing Somalis on Somalian soil. It would drive people to them," Menkhaus said. "Piracy is a second-level security concern compared to the broader first order (terrorist) threat."

Indirectly, a strike "could make us less secure," because it would attract people to the more extreme elements, he said.

Diplomatic focus

While Moeller is more optimistic about the military's ability, if called upon, to work effectively with the government, he concurs that the main focus must be on the diplomatic side. If the Somali government requested support with military training it would have to be done in conjunction with strong diplomatic outreach, Moeller said.

"[The transitional government]



FAHAR ABDI WARSAMEH/AP

Islamic fighters stand guard during a rally by Somali hard-line opposition leader Sheik Hassan Dahir Aweys in Mogadishu, Somalia, on April 24. Aweys, who is accused of having al-Qaida links, has ruled out peace talks.

do need the support of the international community. I think it's essential they get that support," he said, referring to needed assistance in areas such as funding of infrastructure improvements.

"The reason we face the piracy challenge is there's no alternative in the economy," Moeller said. "Developing that economic base is essential."

At a U.N. donor's conference last month in Brussels, more than \$200 million was pledged to support security initiatives in Somalia. The funds will be directed toward the African Union's peacekeeping forces and support the development and training of a Somali security force.

Though the command is new, AFRICOM already has started to build a track record with its training partnerships around the continent, helping African countries professionalize their security forces and develop coast guards. It remains to be seen whether AFRICOM will play a similar role down the road in Somalia.

Long-term endeavors

In the meantime, the scourge of piracy persists in the Gulf of Aden. While everyone from State Department officials, to military leaders and Somali scholars say the solution is an economic and political matter, bringing about those types of reforms are complicated long-term endeavors.

And though navies from around the world continue to patrol the

waters off Somalia, military might alone has proved incapable of eliminating the young bandits who continue to strike with impunity.

In April, Gen. David Petraeus, commander of U.S. Central Command, told a congressional panel that shipping companies needed to do more to protect their ships and should consider hiring armed security.

To put the limits of naval power into context, at least 80 commercial cargo ships have been attacked in the area off the coasts of Somalia and bordering Kenya and in the Gulf of Aden, an area equal to more than 1.1 million square miles, roughly four times the size of Texas or the size of the Mediterranean and Red seas combined, according to www.navy.mil, the official Web site of the U.S. Navy. At least 19 of those attacks have resulted in successful hijackings, which is just a drop in the bucket when compared against the 19,000 ships that pass through the region each year.

But while the industry wrestles with the issue of arming its crews, shippers actually have bigger concerns that could make such dramatic steps unlikely.

"The underlying metrics of the industry have little or nothing to do with piracy off the coast of Somalia," said Nathan Hughes, a military analyst for STRATFOR, a Texas-based global intelligence company.

With world trade plummeting

because of the economic crisis, coupled with a sharp increase in the number of newly constructed cargo vessels set to become operational this year, many shippers are in a financial bind.

"The industry is facing a perfect storm. They're getting hit from two sides before we even talk about piracy," Hughes said. "Ultimately, it's a business decision for them [to hire security guards]," Hughes said. "It's hard for them to focus on piracy with the small amount of attrition right now off the coast of Somalia."

Status quo

For the near future, it will likely be status quo with the pirates, Hughes said.

"There's a clear sense that the Pentagon remains committed to keeping a lid on the problem rather than solving the problem. There aren't a lot of good options and everybody has other priorities. There's a reason Somalia has gone unsolved for so long," he said.

While the pirates continue to capture the world's attention, there is growing concern about insurgents traveling into East Africa. Somalia press reports state that some of those foreign fighters could be lining up with al-Shabaab, which is making threats to launch attacks into Kenya.

"My great worry is not that Shabaab is going to take Somalia. Somalis are pushing back against Shabaab," Menkhaus said. "My worry is that they'll try to globalize what they're doing by attacking neighbors."

"When it's Somalis against foreigners they (al-Shabaab) win. They have every reason to take it across the borders."

As the new administration crafts its policy on Somalia, Moeller said AFRICOM continues to monitor the threats around East Africa.

"It is something that is a matter of some concern because of the potential for it to cause further instability," Moeller said. "It is an issue we pay very close attention to."

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'Jane Waynes' on the job

BY CINDY FISHER
Stars and Stripes

CAMP HANSEN, Okinawa — About 80 3rd Marine Division spouses got a taste of the Marine life Friday at the division's Jane Wayne Day at Camp Hansen and nearby Kin Blue Beach.

The daylong event was designed to showcase some of the training in which division Marines routinely participate, so that spouses could better understand their Marines' jobs, said Master Sgt. Darin Robertson, division training chief and one of the event coordinators.

"Hopefully, this understanding will ease tensions ... when husbands deploy," Robertson said, adding that coordinators also "hoped to develop a sense of camaraderie amongst the spouses."

Separated into four groups, the Jane Waynes rode in an amphibious assault vehicle, learned about landmine detection, found their way on a land-navigation course and got in some marksmanship training at Camp Hansen's indoor shooting simulator.

At Kin Blue, the groups learned about sniper marksmanship and hit the waves in Zodiac inflatable boats.

Jessica Baker has been married to her Marine, Cpl. Greg Baker, for about 2½ years, so the day in the field was a welcomed opportunity, she said.

"He talks about work all the time. This was the first

Military spouses get a taste of the Marine life

time to do this, and I wasn't going to pass it up," Baker said.

"I think it's a blast," said Tonya Field, who is married to Maj. Walker Field. "A better understanding of what they do, gives us a better understanding of them," she said.

It seemed to be a good day also for the Marine demonstrators and instructors.

"It's fun to hang out with nonmilitary people for once, and anything that will help them appreciate their husbands' jobs more is a good thing," said Sgt. Jesse Villanueva, of the 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion.

"It was so awesome, I want to go again," said Heather Shafer, right, wife of Sgt. Daeton Shafer, after a 30-minute ride in a Zodiac boat. Shafer and other wives went out on the boats with 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion Marines at Kin Blue Beach on Friday during 3rd Marine Division's Jane Wayne Day.

PHOTOS BY CINDY FISHER
Stars and Stripes



Above: Marines of 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion drag a Zodiac boat ashore at Kin Blue Beach, Okinawa, showing off some of their amphibious skills for 3rd Marine Division wives during the division's Jane Wayne Day on Friday. During the 30-minute boat ride, the women got to paddle the boats and participate in high-speed runs. Right: Tonya Field, wife of Maj. Walker Field, laughs as Combat Assault Battalion's Pvt. Chad Hayes tells her "There's a mine right here; now what do you do?" It all took place during the mine detection portion of the event at Camp Hansen.



Left: Patty Bly, wife of Capt. Horace Bly, and other 3rd Marine Division wives wave to the Marines watching as the women take a short ride in an amphibious assault vehicle as part of the Jane Wayne Day on Friday at Camp Hansen. Middle: Annie Connally, wife of Col. Tom Connally, tests the weight of an M107 .50-caliber, special-application, scoped rifle at Kin Blue Beach. Comparing the rifle to lifting her 70-pound son, she looked to 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion Marines and said "You don't do the Rambo thing with this; then, how do you shoot it?" Right: Sgt. Jesse Villanueva, of 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion, explains how to site in on the M107 .50-caliber scoped rifle to Sarah Wyaroslaski, wife of Lt. Col. Dan Wyaroslaski, at Kin Blue Beach.



JOSE LUIS MAGANA/AP

A Navy carry team carries a transfer case containing the remains of Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Tyler J. Trahan of Freetown, Mass., on Friday at Dover Air Force Base, Del. According to the Department of Defense, Trahan, 22, died April 30 while conducting combat operations in Fallujah, Iraq.

Sailor, Marine killed in Anbar arrive at Dover

BY JEFF SCHOGOL
Stars and Stripes

DOVER AIR FORCE BASE, Del. — Two transfer cases, each covered with an American flag.

One contains a fallen Marine, the other a fallen sailor.

The servicemembers waiting on the flight line are respectfully silent.

After a chaplain gives a quiet prayer, the transfer cases are lowered from the plane to a waiting detail of sailors and Marines.

That's how the remains of Marine Staff Sgt. Mark A. Wojciechowski and Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Tyler Trahan were greeted Friday night when they arrived at Dover.

Both were killed Thursday in Iraq's Anbar province, once the deadliest place for U.S. troops, now relatively quiet — at least until recently.

Trahan, 22, was an Explosive Ordnance Disposal Technician who deployed with "an East Coast based SEAL team," according to the Defense Department.

Wojciechowski, 25, was with the 7th Engineer Support Battalion, 1st Marine Logistics Group, I Marine Expeditionary Force.

A second Marine, Sgt. James R. McIlvaine, 26, of Oinely, Md., was killed in the same incident. He arrived on a later plane, an Air Force official said. The circumstances surrounding their deaths were not known Friday.

Friday's events are known as "dignified transfers," the process of moving a fallen servicemember from the plane to the "transfer vehicle," which will carry him or her to the mortuary, according to Air Force Mortuary Affairs.

President George H.W. Bush ordered a ban on media coverage of the transfers in 1991, but after President Barack Obama ordered

a review into the matter, Defense Secretary Robert Gates reversed the policy in March.

"We are committed to seeing that America's fallen heroes are received back to their loved ones and their country with the honor, respect and recognition that they and their families have earned," Gates said at a March 18 news conference.

As of Friday night, 16 of 22 families of the fallen have allowed media to cover their loved ones' arrival since the policy change, said Air Force Capt. Thomas Wenz, a spokesman for Air Force Mortuary Affairs.

Friday marked the first dignified transfer for a sailor since media was reinstated, Wenz said.

Family members attended Friday night, but they were screened from the media, which is not allowed to photograph or try to interview them without prior consent.

That is one of the ground rules media have to agree to in order to cover the transfers. Violators will be kicked off base and not allowed to return.

So far, there have been no incidents with the media, Wenz said.

"We didn't expect there would be," he said.

Sailors and Marines waited in a humid, breezy Friday night to receive their fallen comrades.

The civilian pilots who brought them to Dover stood at attention.

Wojciechowski, and then Trahan, were carefully put in a truck that would take them to the mortuary.

A low voice said, "Present arms."

The sailors, Marines and airmen deliberately saluted in unison. The truck slowly pulled away.

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Cost-saving measure earns AF staff sergeant \$10,000

Stars and Stripes

A Misawa Air Base staff sergeant's good idea has earned him \$10,000, according to an Air Force news release.

Staff Sgt. Jerome Latham earned the award for suggesting a change that the release said will be implemented throughout the Air Force and save millions of dollars.

Latham, an engine craftsman with the 35th Maintenance Squadron at Misawa, thought that flaps on a jet engine exhaust nozzle were being replaced too often, given the minimal wear he found on them. He began working with the engine manufacturer and received permission to increase usage of the nozzle, according to the release.

When Latham did the math, he realized his idea

saved Misawa about \$256,000 annually.

He submitted the suggestion to the Innovative Development through Employee Awareness program, an incentive program that takes ideas to streamline processes or increase productivity and efficiency, according to the release.

"There was a lot of paperwork that needed to be submitted, but I knew I had the evidence," Latham said. "It was a long process but it paid off in the end."

His suggestion was implemented across the Air Force and Latham was awarded \$10,000.

"It was just a simple change. Lesson learned — keep your eyes open, save the Air Force money and improve your job by doing it more efficiently," he said.



Staff Sgt. Jerome Latham, 35th Maintenance Squadron, receives a \$10,000 check from Col. Robert Craig, 35th Fighter Wing vice commander, courtesy of the Innovative Development through Employee Awareness program on Monday.

JAMAL SUTTER
Courtesy of the U.S. Air Force

On the fast track



DALE DUNCAN/Courtesy of Yokosuka Middle School

Yokosuka Middle School's Ashley Dejesus successfully hands off to Tasheanna Blair in the 4x100-meter relay Saturday at the Kanto Plain Championship in Tokyo. The track and field girls from Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan, took first place at this year's annual meet. The Yokosuka boys finished in fourth place.

Far from faith, home

BY HEATH DRUZIN
Stars and Stripes

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq — Swahili gospel chants backed with clapping, banging percussion floated through the humid, buggy night air, eliciting quizzical glances from troops walking to chow.

Men and women in khaki uniforms threw their hands skyward, beat together rough pieces of wood and shouted words of praise as they circled a dimly lit gazebo tucked into a eucalyptus grove. A worshipper manning a cheap synthesizer wove a simple melody.

It was one of the twice-daily services for the Ugandan Christian Gospel Fellowship, conducted in both Swahili and English, and a small example of how the army of foreign laborers imported to U.S.

bases carve out a little piece of home in Iraq.

Khaki-clad Ugandan ex-soldiers are ubiquitous in Iraq, with hundreds working for private contractors as guards at U.S. bases throughout the country. They act as gate guards, protecting dining halls, gyms and military exchange stores.

Almost all of the some 20 worshippers on a recent night worked as guards and all were Ugandan, though Atwine Robert, 40, a night-service pastor, stressed that all people are welcome to the services.

Working for long stretches far from homes and loved ones can be lonely and stressful and the church services are one way to escape, if only for a short time.

"It helps me to be connected

to God, to be free, to stay out of trouble and stresses," said Moses Mwesigye, 28, who has worked for about a year in Iraq and has a wife in Uganda.

The Ugandan guards have also faced hardships in Iraq related to their work — some have alleged they haven't been paid what they were promised; others have alleged that their passports were taken from them once they arrived. And a commission investigating waste and fraud in wartime found "serious deficiencies" in their training and equipment.

With everything from country and rock blaring on buses to Southern fried fare at dining halls to fast-food outlets — all aimed at making many large bases feel like a fortified piece of America — the distinctly East African feel of the

religious service stands out.

The service also offers a chance to speak in a common language (Swahili is the lingua franca of Uganda, though a multitude of languages are spoken in the country) and hang out with fellow Ugandans.

"It's really so comforting," said Denis Mwesigwa, 27, who also helps lead the night services.

The open-air environs are not ideal (sweating worshipers in a prayer circle had to unclasp hands from time to time to swat mosquitoes), but indoor space is limited and it's the prayer, not the building that's important, Robert said.

"It should not stop us from worshipping God because he is everywhere," he said.

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MARK HUMPHREY/AP

The Alvin C. York Campus of the Veterans Affairs Department in Murfreesboro, Tenn., is seen April 23. The VA first shocked veterans when it warned thousands of its patients to get blood tests for HIV and hepatitis because they might have been treated with dirty equipment at facilities, including the one in Murfreesboro. Five VA patients who were exposed to the equipment have tested positive for HIV.

VA: Fifth HIV case linked to dirty endoscopy equipment

The Associated Press

MIAMI — A fifth patient has tested positive for HIV, and seven more tested positive for hepatitis after being exposed to contaminated medical equipment at three Department of Veterans Affairs hospitals, the agency said Friday.

That brings the total who have tested positive for hepatitis to 33.

They are among thousands tested because they were treated with endoscopic equipment that wasn't properly sterilized between patients and exposed them to the body fluids of others. The equipment is often used in colonoscopies and ear, nose and throat procedures.

Nearly 11,000 former sailors, soldiers, airmen and Marines could have been exposed at the hospitals in Miami, Murfreesboro, Tenn., and Augusta, Ga. The agency said 6,687 patients have been notified of their test results so far.

VA spokeswoman Katie Roberts said the new HIV case was found in the Miami hospital.

The agency said in a news re-

lease the positive tests were "not necessarily linked to any endoscopy issues."

"It's very disturbing that anybody would contract it, of course. I am pleased that the VA has agreed to treat all the veterans regardless of where they may have contracted it," said Alexander Kovac, a veterans' advocate.

The VA has said the problems with the endoscopic equipment had gone on for years, but were discovered in December when officials learned the Murfreesboro facility wasn't following cleaning procedures the manufacturer recommended. It issued an internal alert for hospitals to check procedures, and the problem at Augusta was discovered in January.

On Feb. 9, the VA announced a nationwide safety check of endoscopic equipment used in colonoscopies and ear, nose and throat treatments. The procedure involves a narrow, flexible tube fitted with a fiber-optic device such as a telescope or magnifying lens that is inserted into the body.

Some veterans were warned in February to get tested, and more were alerted in March when the Miami hospital backtracked on its previous conclusion that it didn't have a problem.

The day after the first HIV infection became public April 6, the VA announced that its top medical official, Dr. Michael Kussman, was retiring. Kussman still works at the VA but could not be reached for comment.

The endoscopic equipment is made by Center Valley, Pa.-based Olympus American, and the company has said its recommended cleaning procedures are clear.

The VA and its inspector general have started investigations, and congressional members of the Veterans Affairs Committee have asked for a hearing in late May to discuss how the VA has been handling the problem.

The VA is providing a hot line for veterans and their families and posts the information it is releasing on its Web site.

Former soldier talks of role in rape, slaying of Iraqi girl

BY BRETT BARROUQUERE
The Associated Press

PADUCAH, Ky. — A former soldier on trial for the rape and murder of an Iraqi teenager and the shotgun deaths of her family told others he would take full blame for the attacks if necessary, a one-time private said Friday.

Bryan Howard, a former private first class in the 101st Airborne Division, told jurors on Friday that defendant Steven Dale Green offered to take the blame for the slayings if they were traced back to American soldiers.

"I remember him saying just blame it on him," said Howard, who pleaded guilty to obstruction of justice and being an accessory after the fact to the March 12, 2006, attack on the al-Janabi family. He testified Friday that he remained at a checkpoint while other soldiers went to the home of the family that was attacked.

Howard's testimony came on the fifth day of Green's federal trial on charges that he raped 14-year-old Abeer Qassim al-Janabi and killed her and her family near Mahmudiyah, Iraq, south of Baghdad. Federal prosecutors say Green was the third soldier to rape Abeer, then shot her in the head just after killing her mother, father and younger sister.

Green is the one accused of actually shooting the family, though other soldiers pleaded guilty to or were convicted of murder charges for their roles.

Green, 23, from Midland, Texas, has pleaded not guilty to the charges. Prosecutors say they'll ask the jury for a death sentence if Green is convicted. He is being tried in civilian court because he was discharged from the Army before charges were brought in the case.

Howard was the fourth person convicted in military court on charges related to the attack to testify against Green. Earlier Friday, two other soldiers more directly involved in the attack gave jurors details about what led up to the deaths and told how Green and the other soldiers re-

acted afterward.

Former Spc. James Paul Barker said he could have stepped in after initially planning the attack with Green. But, Barker said, he didn't and he knew someone was going to kill the al-Janabi family once the soldiers made their way to the house.

Defense attorney Darren Wolff asked Barker if he would have shot the al-Janabi family if Green had not.

"Yes," Barker replied.

Wolff asked, "You knew that was an end result?"

"Yes," Barker replied.

Another soldier with the same unit, Paul Cortez of Barstow, Calif., told jurors Friday that Barker and Green directed the attack, but that he didn't know ahead of time the family would be killed.

"I didn't know that was the intention," Cortez said. "Stuff just went crazy. Nobody could control what happened. It just went crazy."

Defense attorneys have asked jurors to consider the "context" in which the crime took place. They say Green and his fellow soldiers were stressed by the deaths of colleagues and the military did help them.

Cortez, who is serving a 90-year sentence for his role in the rape and murder, told jurors he directed the destruction of two pieces of evidence taken from the house. Cortez said he burned a shotgun shell found in the room where several family members were shot to keep military investigators from finding it.

Green took the family's AK-47 machine gun from the house, Cortez said. Cortez said another soldier was told to throw the weapon into a canal.

Howard, who served 27 months in military prison, also told jurors that all the soldiers involved agreed not to discuss what happened. Other than Green, who talked to fellow soldiers soon after the attacks, the agreement held together for three months, until Army criminal investigators began looking into the deaths,



AP

Ammar Afif Hamada, 19, lies unconscious Friday inside a mosque in Kirkuk, Iraq. Hamada was wearing a suicide belt and was captured when he tried to blow himself up amid worshippers in a Shiite mosque in Kirkuk, police said.

Syrian bomber caught in Iraq

BY SINAN SALAHEDDIN
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — A would-be suicide bomber tackled by guards on the doorstep of a mosque in northern Iraq is a Syrian linked to al-Qaida in Iraq, police said Saturday, detailing the capture that could provide new leads on other insurgent operations.

The details emerged a day after Ammar Afif Hamada, 19, was arrested by guards who became suspicious as he approached the main gate of a Shiite mosque in the disputed city of Kirkuk.

His capture could give authorities information about insurgent operations in northern Iraq and smuggling routes used to bring people from Syria — long considered one of the main pipelines for insurgent recruits from across the region.

It also comes as a welcome success story for Iraqi security forces, troubled by public complaints following a series of recent high-

profile bombings in Baghdad and elsewhere.

Meanwhile, a gunman wearing an Iraqi army uniform opened fire on a U.S. military team Saturday, killing two American soldiers and wounding three others at a combat outpost in northern Iraq, the military said.

A military statement said the attacker was killed after the ambush-style assault 12 miles south of Mosul, which is one of the last urban strongholds for Sunni insurgents.

According to an officer involved in the investigation of the attempted bombing, Hamada fired a pistol at one guard who tried to stop him. Then another guard tackled him as he continued toward the mosque's main hall, grabbing the attacker's hands to prevent him from detonating an explosives belt.

The belt was packed with grenades containing about 55 pounds of explosives that were connected to the suspect's digital watch, the

officer said, speaking on condition of anonymity because he wasn't authorized to release the information.

Word about the would-be bomber spread quickly inside the mosque, where a Friday service was under way. Panicked worshippers started to flee, some cutting themselves on broken glass as they tried to jump through windows to escape.

Oil-rich Kirkuk has been the scene of rising tensions linked to a power struggle between the majority Kurds and Arabs.

A roadside bomb also exploded near a car and a cement mixer in a southern section of the city on Saturday, killing at least three civilians and wounding three others, according to police.

Hamada traveled from Syria to the northern city of Mosul about a week ago, then arrived Wednesday in Kirkuk, where he was moved from safehouse to safehouse in mainly Sunni areas, the police officer said.

Iraqi Shiites resist seeking revenge

BY BRIAN MURPHY
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — The anger in Baghdad's main Shiite district was raw and restless after twin car bombings took more than 50 lives last week.

But the true measure of the rage — in Iraqi terms — came the following morning: Morgues and streets were not full of Sunnis killed in payback violence.

A night-long spree of slayings by Shiite militias would have been the likely revenge exacted for such a blast during the height of Iraq's sectarian bloodshed.

Now, however, Shiites have so far maintained a resilience and restraint after a week of bombings by suspected Sunni insurgents apparently seeking to provoke another cycle of violence and re-

verse recent security gains.

"Let's not be dragged into these plots," Sadiq al-Eswai, an aide to radical cleric Muqtada al-Sadr, said during Friday prayers in Baghdad's Sadr City — which was hit by the double car bombings Wednesday.

But the lack of reprisals from Shiite gangs may have more to do with their diminished status and options than a collective decision to hold back.

An Iraqi offensive last year into Sadr City broke the control of al-Sadr's Mahdi Army militia, which used the huge Shiite slum as its Baghdad base and ran it as they wished with armed patrols and checkpoints. It's now in the hands of Iraqi security forces.

The Shiite-led government, meanwhile, has come under pres-

sure from Washington to build stronger bonds with Sunni tribal leaders and open police and military posts to Sunni fighters who helped battle insurgents.

That has blurred the once sharp divide between Sunnis and Shiites during near civil war in 2006-07.

YES
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Gates: Another troop boost in Afghanistan would be difficult

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Defense Secretary Robert Gates says it would be difficult to request more U.S. troops in Afghanistan in six to 12 months.

"It would be a hard sell, there's no question about it," Gates told CNN in response to a question about additional troops. Excerpts of Gates' interview to be aired Sunday on "Fareed Zakaria GPS" were released Friday night.

"I think we will have between the American military commitment and our coalition partners — the ISAF partners — we will have about 100,000 troops in Afghanistan," he said, referring to NATO's International Security Assistance Force. "That's only about 10,000 shy of what the Russians had, and I think we need to think about that."

Russians invaded Afghanistan three decades ago, and withdrew

after a decade of fierce resistance from Afghan fighters.

President Barack Obama this year ordered 21,000 new troops to the Central Asian country to bolster the 38,000 already there. Taliban and other militants have made a violent comeback the last three years after what appeared to be an initial defeat following the 2001 U.S.-led invasion of Afghanistan that came after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

A week ago, Gates said more civilians with skills beyond the battlefield will be needed. The administration said it would send several hundred citizens, from agronomists to economists, to work on reconstruction and development issues as part of the military's counterinsurgency campaign.

That has proven to be difficult, and the Pentagon said that reservists might be asked to fill the gap.

Afghan governor says he won't mount campaign for presidency

BY JASON STRAZIUSO
The Associated Press

KABUL — An influential Afghan governor who had signaled his intention to run for president said Saturday he will not, leaving President Hamid Karzai in an increasingly strong position to win re-election.

Nangarhar Gov. Gul Agha Sherzai, who met with President Barack Obama last year when he visited Afghanistan before the U.S. elections, was seen as one of the few possible candidates who could have threatened Karzai's hopes for sealing another five-year term in the Aug. 20 vote.

Despite Karzai's declining popularity, no realistic challengers have emerged among the dozens who are likely to run. The deadline for candidates to register is May 8.

A spike in fighting against Taliban insurgents in recent years and a rising civilian death toll have eroded Karzai's standing, as have accusations from conservatives that he is a puppet of Western powers. His government is also widely viewed as corrupt and ineffective.

Sherzai's spokesman, lawmaker Gul Khalid Pushtoon, told The Associated Press this past week that Sherzai had intended to register his candidacy



RAFIQ MAQBOOL/AP

A U.S. soldier from 3rd Brigade, 10th Mountain Division patrols Saturday during a search operation to hunt members of Taliban in the Nerkh district of Wardak province in west of Kabul, Afghanistan.

on Saturday. Pushtoon said Friday that Afghanistan's top vice president — Ahmad Zia Masood — was breaking away from Karzai to join Sherzai on a competing ticket, although this was not confirmed as Masood's spokesman.

But after a private meeting with Karzai on Friday, Sherzai told reporters Saturday he would not run. He said, however, that he was resigning as Karzai's governor of eastern Nangarhar province.

A statement from Karzai hours later said the president did not accept the resignation. The statement welcomed Sherzai's decision not to run for president.

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IN THE STATES

FDA warns against use of Hydroxycut

WASHINGTON — Government health officials warned dieters and body builders Friday to immediately stop using Hydroxycut, a widely sold supplement linked to cases of serious liver damage and at least one death.

The Food and Drug Administration said the company that makes the dietary supplement has agreed to recall 14 Hydroxycut products.

Available in grocery stores and pharmacies, Hydroxycut is advertised as made from natural ingredients.

Dr. Linda Katz of the FDA's food and nutrition division said the agency has received 23 reports of liver problems, including the death of a 19-year-old boy living in the Southwest.

The teenager died in 2007, and the death was reported to the FDA this March.

Senate confirms Cohen for Treasury post

WASHINGTON — Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner is no longer alone. The Senate on Friday confirmed another Obama Treasury nomination.

By voice vote, the Senate approved the nomination of David S. Cohen to be Treasury's assistant secretary for terrorist financing.

Cohen is the first Treasury official other than Geithner to win Senate confirmation since the new administration took office in January.

President Barack Obama has been criticized for the slow pace in filling jobs at Treasury in the midst of the country's worst financial crisis in seven decades.

Mystery donor gives \$7 million to Alaska school

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — The University of Alaska Anchorage has been given \$7 million by a mystery donor who has so far gifted at least \$81.5 million to 14 colleges run by women.

School chancellor Fran Ulmer announced the donation on Friday.

School officials say \$6 million will be used for scholarships targeting women and minorities and the rest for a new science learning center opening next fall.

About 20,000 students are enrolled at the school.

The anonymous donor has been giving the money over the past two months to colleges run by women.

From The Associated Press

Immigrants march for reform nationwide

Rallies call for path to citizenship for 12 million illegals

BY LAURA WIDES-MUNOZ

The Associated Press

MIAMI — Thousands of immigrants and their families marched in cities from coast to coast, hoping to channel the political muscle Hispanics flexed last fall as President Barack Obama won election. This time, they hoped to jump-start an old cause: forging a path to citizenship for the estimated 12 million illegal immigrants living in the U.S.

Crowds were dampened in many areas though, as the swine flu scare kept numerous people home Friday. The area hardest hit by the swine flu is Mexico, also the native home of many rally participants.

In Miami, more than 300 minority rights activists joined with union officials in one of the first local immigration rallies to be endorsed by the AFL-CIO. Participants waved signs for immigration reform in Spanish, English and Creole. They also sought temporary protection for the state's large community of Haitian immigrants, whose native



REED SAXON/AP

People gather for a march and rally for immigration law reform in Los Angeles on Friday. Organizers are urging passage of an immigration law that provides a path to citizenship for the nation's estimated 12 million illegal immigrants.

island has been devastated in recent years by hurricanes and floods.

They chanted "W-I N-O-U K-A-P-A-B," Creole for "Yes We Can."

In Colorado, a march was planned Saturday in Greeley, a rural town 60 miles north of Denver, and the site of a 2006 federal raid at a meatpacking plant in which 261 undocumented workers were detained.

"We wanted to make the undocumented workers the protagonists, to give them a voice," said one Greeley organizer, Alonso Barron Ortiz.

Activists' hopes have been buoyed by Obama's win and a Democratic-controlled Congress, in part because they believe the Hispanic vote, about two-thirds of which went to Obama, helped flip battleground states.

Judge orders widows' green card cases reopened

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — A federal judge on Friday ordered the government to reopen the immigration cases of dozens of foreign widows whose American citizen spouses died before they could get their green cards.

U.S. District Judge Christina A. Snyder ruled that the Department of Homeland Security could not deny the widows' applications to remain in the country legally because the agency didn't process the paperwork before their spouses died.

The class-action case is one of many suits filed across the nation by foreign spouses affected by the so-called "widow penalty."

In recent years, U.S. authorities have denied widows' applications to remain in the country because their American spouses died before they had been married for two years — and before officials finished processing their paperwork.

One woman's husband was killed in Iraq. Another's husband was killed in the line of duty for the U.S. Border Patrol.

The ruling applies to several dozen widows in Western states, and lawyers elsewhere hope it

bodes well for their clients in dealings with the Citizenship and Immigration Services agency.

"The court's decision demonstrates that it is time for CIS to end the widow's penalty nation-

wide," said Caryn C. Lederer, a lawyer for the New York Legal Assistance Group. The group is suing on behalf of a Russian woman whose American husband died after they married.

Amy Kudwa, a spokeswoman for the Department of Homeland Security, said Secretary Janet Napolitano has recognized the widows' predicament and asked staff to come up with a solution.

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IN THE WORLD

Swine flu spreads to new countries

Virus may be loosening grip on Mexico

By PAUL HAVEN
The Associated Press

MEXICO CITY — Mexican officials were cautiously optimistic Saturday that the worst of the swine flu epidemic is over for Mexico, with no new flu deaths reported overnight. But the virus keeps spreading around the world, with new cases confirmed in Europe and Asia, and some governments banning flights and preparing quarantines for travelers from Mexico.

Mexico said it had no confirmed deaths from swine flu overnight, even as its confirmed caseload grew to 443. The U.S. count rose to 171, and worldwide there were 653 confirmed swine flu cases, although the real number is believed to be much higher. The virus also has been detected in Canada, New Zealand, China, South Korea, Israel and eight European nations.

Meanwhile, the World Health Organization said it has sent 2.4 million treatments of anti-flu drug Tamiflu to 72 developing countries, taking the drugs from a stockpile donated by Roche Holding AG.

It should soon become clear whether the epidemic is really stabilizing in Mexico, but many questions remain about how the disease kills, said the leader of an international team of flu-fighters now operating in the capital.

"That is the big question: Is it stabilizing or not? And it is too early to say, but I think we are getting systems in place where we are going to be able to get a handle on this soon," said Dr. Steve Waterman of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

In New York City, which has the most confirmed swine flu cases in the United States with 50, swine flu has not spread far beyond cases linked to one Roman Catholic school.

Waterman, whose team is working with Mexican officials, said the scientists are trying to determine the mortality rate of the virus, and don't yet know where it started or why. But he and other experts said it appeared the outbreak could have been far more deadly, particularly in the teeming streets of Mexico's capital.

But Waterman also warned against taking false comfort from the fact that only one person has died outside Mexico, saying more deaths are likely as the epidemic evolves. He spoke Friday amid CDC specialists at the Mexico City swine flu nerve center.

Hugo Lopez-Gatell Ramirez, deputy director general of epi-



VINCENT YU/AP

Civil Aid Service workers wearing masks and full bodysuits man a checkpoint at Lady MacLehose Holiday Village in suburban Hong Kong on Saturday. It is being used as a quarantine center after a Mexican tourist who arrived in Hong Kong on Thursday and stayed at the Metropark Hotel was diagnosed with swine flu. China also suspended direct flights to Mexico from Shanghai.

demiology at the center, underscored the importance of getting fast and effective care. He said that among the 16 confirmed swine flu deaths in Mexico, the

average time the victims waited before going to a doctor was seven days compared to three days for those who recovered.

Lopez-Gatell said that despite

some criticism of the Mexican response, no mistakes were made.

"We would have done everything the same if we had it to do over again," he said.

Obama explains need for flu preparation

WASHINGTON — Medical authorities fear swine flu could become much worse, President Barack Obama said in his weekly radio and Internet address on Saturday, and that's why he has used substantial federal resources against it.

"This is a new strain of the flu virus, and because we haven't developed an immunity to it, it has more potential to cause us harm," he said. "Unlike the various strains of animal flu that have emerged in the past, it's a flu that is spreading from human to human."

Obama noted that the flu strain "can be defeated by a course of antiviral treatment that we already have on hand." One-fourth of the nation's 50 million courses of the treatment have been distributed to states, he said.

Obama has asked Congress for \$1.5 billion to buy more medicine and equipment if needed.

"I would sooner take action now than hesitate and face graver consequences later," Obama said.

From The Associated Press

Hong Kong quarantines hundreds of tourists

The Associated Press

HONG KONG — Hundreds of tourists and employees were under quarantine in a downtown Hong Kong hotel Saturday after a Mexican guest tested positive for swine flu.

Hours after the first confirmed case in Asia was reported, the continent got its second: Tests showed a South Korean woman has the disease.

Health workers in white bodysuits patrolled the lobby of Metropark Hotel in Hong Kong early Saturday as guests picked up bottles of water, chocolate milk and bread before returning to their rooms by elevator. About a dozen police officers wearing masks guarded the building, which was cordoned off.

"Given the current situation, I'd rather err on the side of caution than miss the opportunity to contain the disease," Hong Kong leader Donald Tsang said late Friday.

Officials have conducted medical checkups on about 200 of the guests and staff holed up at the Metropark. Sixty people who had mild symptoms were taken to hospitals for follow-ups, Thom-

as Tsang, controller of Hong Kong's Center of Health Protection was quoted as saying on radio RTHK's Web site Saturday.

The patient, who was not identified, arrived in Shanghai on AeroMexico flight AM 98 and continued on to Hong Kong on China Eastern Airlines flight MU 505. He developed a fever after arriving in the territory Thursday and is now in stable condition and isolated at a hospital.

The Chinese Foreign Ministry said in a notice on its Web site that it would suspend direct flights from Mexico.

The government also was looking for 11 people who arrived in Shanghai on a flight from Mexico on Thursday and traveled to southern China.

South Korea also confirmed its first case of the disease Saturday, state disease control center chief Lee Jong-koo said. The 51-year-old woman left Mexico April 26 and reported to authorities the next day that she had flu symptoms. She has been quarantined, but a doctor treating her said Saturday that she is in good condition.

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Doctor: 64 killed in Sri Lanka hospital shelling

BY BHARATHA MALLAWARACHI
The Associated Press

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka — Artillery shells hit a makeshift hospital in Sri Lanka's northern war zone Saturday, killing at least 64 civilians, a government doctor and a rebel-linked Web site said, amid growing international pressure to safeguard thousands of civilians trapped in the area.

The TamilNet Web site accused government forces of shelling the hospital at Mullivaaykaal.

Military spokesman Brig. Udaya Nanayakkara denied the accusation, saying soldiers were only using small arms as they pushed forward to seize the remaining territory held by separatist Tamil Tigers along a small coastal strip in the island's northeast.

A government health official said at least 64 patients and bystanders were killed in two artillery attacks that hit the hospital Saturday. Another 87 people were wounded, said the official, who declined to be identified by name because he was not authorized to speak to the media.

TamilNet said the shells struck on both Friday and Saturday. It gave the same casualty toll as the health official.

The hospital is inside rebel-held territory but is run by government doctors.

The artillery attacks came amid growing international concern over the fate of the estimated 50,000 civilians trapped in the war zone, following a U.N. report that nearly 6,500 civilians were killed in the past three months.

International pressure has grown for a cease-fire between the government forces and Tamil rebels to protect the trapped civilians.

The government has rejected calls for a cease-fire, saying its troops are on the verge of ending the quarter-century civil war.

They instead promised on Monday to stop using artillery attacks, airstrikes and other heavy weapons to ensure the safety of the trapped civilians.

But pro-rebel reports say government forces continue to shell the area.

The government and rights groups, meanwhile, accuse the rebels of holding the civilians as human shields.

The various claims are difficult to verify because most journalists and independent observers are barred from the conflict zone.

The government forces have ousted the rebels from all their



French Foreign Minister Bernard Kouchner greets an injured civilian last week at a French field hospital at Manik Farm, a camp for internally displaced ethnic Tamils in Vavuniya, Sri Lanka. A makeshift hospital was reportedly hit by shelling on Friday and 64 civilians were killed.

AP

strongholds in recent months and cornered them in a 3-mile-long strip on the northeastern coast.

In fighting Friday, army troops pushed further into the rebels' remaining territory, triggering battles that killed at least 14 insurgents, Nanayakkara said.

He did not provide details of casualties suffered by the government.

On Friday, the government air-dropped leaflets appealing to trapped civilians to flee across the front lines, promising to ensure their safety.

The Tamil Tigers, listed as a terrorist group by many Western nations, have been fighting since 1983 for an ethnic Tamil state in the north and east after decades of marginalization by governments dominated by the Sinhalese majority.

60,000 arrested in Mexican drug war in 2 years

The Washington Post

MEXICO CITY — Mexican authorities have arrested more than 60,000 people in connection with drug trafficking over the past two years, according to government statistics from a nationwide crackdown that has also led to dramatic increases in violence and charges of human rights abuse.

The detention figures, obtained by The Washington Post, represent the first public accounting of the government's offensive against Mexico's powerful drug cartels. President Felipe Calderon declared war against the traffickers shortly after taking office in December 2006, giving the military unprecedented law enforcement duties.

Drug trafficking in Mexico employs an estimated 150,000 people, according to U.S. officials, so 60,000 arrests could represent progress in the fight against the cartels.

But the Mexican attorney general's office said



Ricardo Estrada Perez is arrested in Tijuana, Mexico, in 2008. Estrada Perez is a member of the Arellano Felix drug cartel. Mexico's crackdown on drug trafficking has resulted in 60,000 arrests, officials say.

it was unable to disclose how many of the detainees remain in custody or whether they had been charged with crimes related to drug trafficking. In Mexico, it is not unusual for suspects to be arrested and paraded before television cameras but later quietly released without being charged with a crime.

Legal fees for al-Qaida suspects hit nearly \$900K

The Washington Post

The British government has paid nearly \$900,000 in legal fees on behalf of three associates of Osama bin Laden who have fended off attempts by the U.S. government to extradite them for a decade, according to documents obtained by The Washington Post.

The three al-Qaida suspects were arrested in London shortly after the 1998 bombings of the U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania, which killed more than 200 people. British authorities pledged to extradite them swiftly to the U.S. to stand trial.

But the cases have plodded through the British bureaucracy with no end in sight, undermining transatlantic cooperation on counterterrorism and highlighting

how easy it can be for international terrorism suspects to elude the reach of U.S. prosecutors.

The stalled extraditions have proven expensive for British taxpayers. The government covers legal expenses for criminal defendants who cannot afford lawyers. Critics say the combination of free lawyers and a byzantine legal system enables al-Qaida sympathizers to avoid deportation or extradition.

According to documents obtained by The Post under Britain's Freedom of Information Act, the U.K. Legal Services Commission has paid the equivalent of \$371,207 in legal fees for Khalid al-Fawwaz, a Saudi citizen who served as bin Laden's public-relations representative in London from 1994 until his arrest in 1998.

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FACES

'It's like life is in session...

BY COLIN COVERT
Minneapolis Star Tribune

In the past year, Robert Downey Jr. earned a reputation as one of Hollywood's most versatile stars, playing alcoholic, egocentric superhero Tony Stark in "Iron Man" and half-mad method actor Kirk Lazarus in "Tropic Thunder."

Now, in "The Soloist," Downey portrays a real-life person: Los Angeles Times columnist Steve Lopez, who discovers a homeless, schizophrenic musical prodigy (Jamie Foxx) and begins an unlikely friendship that changes both men's lives. Lopez, divorced and cynical about emotional relationships, learns the value of simply showing up consistently and trying.

It's a point that Downey has learned from personal experience as he rebuilt a career derailed by repeated battles with substance abuse. In 1993, he was an Oscar nominee for "Chaplin," a big-budget biography of screen legend Charlie Chaplin. From 1999 to 2000, he lived the role of inmate No. P50522 at a California prison. Since his release, he has been one of the hardest-working actors in the industry, finally winning a second Oscar nod this winter for "Tropic Thunder."

His personal and professional rehabilitation seemingly complete, Downey has become a star that studios build blockbusters around. Whether the story calls for comic-book heroics, over-the-top comedy or inspiring drama, he demonstrates a shape-shifter's ability to get beneath a character's skin. His reluctance to be pegged led him to another offbeat role for his following project, a period English mystery in which he'll star as a two-fisted, macho Sherlock Holmes.

We caught up with the unpredictable actor recently by phone at his home in Los Angeles.

Your dad was one of the wildest maverick directors of the 1960s indie movement, the man behind satirical cult classics like the

advertising-agency farce "Putney Swope." What was it like growing up around that kind of iconoclasm? How did that set you on your course?

It's everything, honestly. I have "Putney Swope" on my iPod. Sometimes I'll watch it and just go, "My God, what crazy stock I'm from." And what a blessing, you know?

I imagine it gave you a pretty robust B.S. detector for the business you graduated into.

Yeah. And some of that is around-the-blockdom. You know, this is my silver anniversary of doing this and it's really starting to get interesting.

There are only a handful of actors like Johnny Depp and you who can navigate a long career and yet consistently stay fresh. What's the secret?

Oh, gosh. It must be my new depilatory cream. Honestly, if you stay engaged it stays engaging. There you go.

You have a real facility for digging inside the characters you play. Are you a Kirk Lazarus type of method actor?

The funny thing is, I'm not. I'm kind of a bit of a wavering quark in that way, in that I don't know that I'm really a specialist in anything.

& I love it'

Life is busy and exciting for 'Soloist' star Robert Downey Jr.

And life experiences.

And life experiences and wasted time and time wasted. Thinking that time was wasted. And now it's like life is in session and it's just remarkable. I love it.

In your new film, you and Foxx both play radically isolated characters. In your mind, who's "The Soloist" of the title?

Joe (director Joe Wright, whose last movie was "Atonement") would say he first thought it was Jamie and then realized it was me. We would all say we thought the film was about friendship and about mental illness. But we all now say the film is about faith. That's what makes things interesting. I love the theme.

One of the advantages of being a movie star on the scale that you are now is that you have a lot more authority at the writers' table. Is that something you're using?

Maybe it's just another big ego trip, maybe I come from a family of writers that I respect deeply, and maybe I have just done enough movies that didn't work that I know a scene that's not going to work when I see it. When some young buck tells me it's great and it just needs a rinse, I can look at him and say, "I've lived this scene, punk. Lemme tell ya how it's gonna go."



AP

Cast members

Jamie Foxx, right, and Robert Downey Jr. attended the premiere of "The Soloist" in Los Angeles.

Downey says about the flick, "We would all say we thought the film was about friendship and about mental illness. But we all now say the film is about faith. That's what makes things interesting. I love the theme."

SCIENCE & MEDICINE

Wis. may require cochlear coverage

MADISON, Wis. — Wisconsin could become the first state requiring private insurance companies to cover cochlear implants for children with severe hearing problems.

The state Legislature passed a bill requiring private health insurance plans to cover cochlear implants, hearing aids and related treatment for those under the age of 18.

Cochlear implants turn sound into electrical impulses that activate the hearing nerve, allowing the deaf to hear.

Supporters say some families with deaf children cannot afford to pay for implants that cost \$50,000 or more when excluded by insurance policies. They say getting the devices early is critical to help children develop their language skills.

Several states already require insurance companies to cover some hearing aid costs, but advocates said Wisconsin would be the first to extend the mandate to cochlear implants.

Opponents said the mandate would drive up costs for small businesses and employees struggling to afford health care costs.

No featherweight at keeping dance rhythm

NEW YORK — They wouldn't blow away the competition on "Dancing with the Stars," but it turns out that some birds have rhythm.

After studying a cockatoo named Snowball that grooves to the Backstreet Boys and about 1,000 YouTube videos, scientists say they've documented for the first time that some animals "dance" to a musical beat. In lab studies of two parrots and close review of the YouTube videos, scientists concluded that some parrots, and maybe an occasional elephant, actually feel the beat of music they hear.

The brain circuitry for that ability lets people learn to talk, and evidently also to dance or tap their toes.

to music, suggests Aniruddh Patel of The Neurosciences Institute in San Diego. He led a study of a cockatoo named Snowball that was published by the journal *Current Biology*, which also published a second study led by Adena Schachner, a graduate student in psychology at Harvard. In sum, the new research "definitely gives us a bit of insight into why and how humans became able to dance," Schachner said.

A video of Snowball bobbing his head and kicking like a little Rockette to music has been viewed more than 2 million times on YouTube since it was posted in 2007. Patel collaborated with Snowball's owner in Indiana for a formal test that showed the bird wasn't just mimicking the movements of somebody off-camera. And Snowball's movements followed the beat of his favorite Backstreet Boys song.

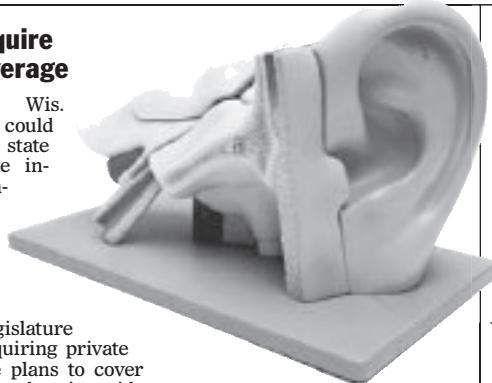
Schachner and colleagues, meanwhile, found that videos of Snowball passed their own tests for following a beat. They also tested an African gray parrot named

Alex, whose mental abilities had been studied for many years, earning him a measure of scientific fame, but who hadn't been trained to respond to music.

"We had no idea he would do anything in response to the musical beat," Schachner said. But when the music started, "to our surprise, Alex started to dance." Analysis showed Alex's head bobbing tracked the musical beat.

Stories and photos from wire services

Snowball AP



Irresistible cravings

Why brains get hooked on the salt-fat-sugar combinations used in many foods

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — He went in the middle of the night, long after the last employee had locked up the Chili's Grill and Bar. He'd steer his car around the back, check to make sure no one was around and then quietly approach the dumpster. If anyone noticed the man foraging through the trash, they would have assumed he was a vagrant.

It took many of these forays until David Kessler, the former commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration emerged with his prize: ingredient labels that spelled out the fats, salt and sugar used to make dishes served by the nation's second-largest restaurant chain.

Kessler was on a mission to understand why he can't resist certain foods. His resulting theory, described in his new book, "The End of Overeating," details how foods high in fat, salt and sugar alter the brain's chemistry in ways that compel people to overeat.

"Much of the scientific research around overeating has been physiology — what's going on in our body," he said. "The real question is what's going on in our brain."

The ingredient labels, which the restaurant chain declined to provide when Kessler asked for them, showed the foods were bathed in salt, fat and sugars, beyond what a diner might expect by reading the menu, Kessler said.

The ingredient list for Southwestern Eggrolls mentioned salt eight different times; sugars showed up five times. The "egg rolls," which are deep-fried in fat, contain chicken that has been chopped up like meatloaf to give it a "melt in the mouth" quality that also makes it faster to eat. By the time a diner has finished this appetizer, she has consumed 910 calories, 57 grams of fat and 1,960 milligrams of sodium.

Instead of satisfying hunger, the salt-fat-sugar combination will stimulate that diner's brain to crave more, Kessler found through his research.

Highly palatable foods — those containing fat, sugar and salt — stimulate the brain to release dopamine, the neurotransmitter associated with the pleasure center, he found. In time, the brain gets wired so that dopamine pathways light up at the mere suggestion of the food, such as driving past a fast-food restaurant,

"We need to make a cognitive shift as a country and change the way we look at food."

David Kessler

Author of "The End of Overeating"

and the urge to eat the food grows insistent. Once the food is eaten, the brain releases opioids, which bring emotional relief. Together, dopamine and opioids create a pathway that can activate every time a person is reminded about the particular food. This happens regardless of whether the person is hungry.

The key to stopping the cycle is to rewire the brain's response to food — not easy in a culture where unhealthy food and snacks are cheap and plentiful, portions are huge and consumers are bombarded by advertising that links these foods to fun and good times, Kessler said, adding that deprivation only heightens the way the brain values the food, which is why dieting doesn't work.

What's needed is a perceptual shift, he said.

"We did this with cigarettes," he said. "It used to be sexy and glamorous but now people look at it and say, 'That's not my friend, that's not something I want.'"

"We need to make a cognitive shift as a country and change the way we look at food. Instead of viewing that huge plate of nachos and fries as a guilty pleasure, we have to ... look at it and say, 'That's not going to make me feel good. In fact, that's disgusting.'"



Learn from Wednesday's STARS AND STRIPES.

Education

Covering the A to Z in education trends, news and analysis each week on Wednesdays. Find out what you don't think you have time to learn!

YOUR MONEY

Record low mortgage rates not for everyone

BY ADRIAN SAINZ
The Associated Press

Every week, mortgage finance giant Freddie Mac releases average rates on four types of home loans, including 30-year fixed rate mortgages — the most popular type of loan for home buyers.

Lately, the number put out by Freddie Mac has been incredibly low — temptingly so for people thinking about refinancing or buying a new place. But anyone who comes across this average may be disappointed when they find out what kind of rate they actually qualify for.

Why is it that the average mortgage rate can be so hard for an actual borrower to get? Here are some questions and answers.

Q: First of all, what's the average been lately?

A: Average rates on 30-year fixed mortgages reached 4.78 percent the week of April 2, a record low dating back to when Freddie Mac first started its survey of mortgage rates in 1971. That mark was tied when the latest number came out on Thursday.

Q: So, can I get a mortgage with a 4.78 percent rate?

A: Not necessarily. There are several reasons that borrowers may not get the low rates they expect.

First, consumers must realize that Freddie Mac reports average rates, which should not be thought of as a standard, industrywide number.

Second, a rate can change several times during the day due to fluctuations in the market — it could be 5.5 percent in the morning and increase to 5.75 percent in the afternoon.

Q: Let's say all those factors work out in my favor. What else can keep me from getting a low rate?

A: For one thing, mortgage lenders look closely at credit scores.

If you have a FICO score — a commonly used credit score — close to 800, you're more likely to get an attractive rate. A borrower with, say, a 650 credit score can't expect an interest rate comparable to the record lows reported by Freddie Mac.

Also, it can be hard to get the lowest rates if you want to borrow too large a percentage of your home's value.

Q: What if I manage to snare a mortgage rate in the 4.78 percent range — are there other costs to worry about?

A: There most certainly are.

One aspect of mortgages that can confuse borrowers is points, or fees. Points vary by lender: Some are paid at the time of application, others at closing. Higher fees mean more cost to the consumer, and could outweigh the benefit of a relatively low interest rate.

Q: So should I be looking elsewhere, besides these average rates that come out each week, as I try to figure out what sort of mortgage I'll be able to get?

A: Freddie Mac releases its survey of mortgage rates for a given week on Thursdays, so reports about it are backward-looking and not a great way to determine what rate a borrower can get right now.

Home buyers or owners seeking to refinance should do their own research. Web sites such as the Mortgage Bankers Association's and Yahoo Finance provide updated rates on all types of loans.

FRIDAY'S MARKET SUMMARY

INDEXES

52-week High			Low Name			Last	Net Chg	% Chg	YTD % Chg	52-wk % Chg
13,136.69	6,469.95	Dow Jones Industrials	8,212.41	+44.29	+5.4	-6.43	-37.11	-	-	-
5,536.57	2,134.21	Dow Jones Transportation	3,152.39	+8.24	+2.26	-10.88	-40.62	-	-	-
530.57	288.62	Dow Jones Utilities	343.03	+8.83	+2.64	-7.48	-34.44	-	-	-
9,687.24	4,181.75	NYSE Composite	5,568.76	+55.40	+1.00	-	-	-	-	-
2,433.31	1,130.47	Amex Index	1,440.03	+23.44	+1.65	+3.04	-37.00	-	-	-
2,551.47	1,265.52	Nasdaq Composite	1,719.20	+1.90	+1.11	+9.02	-30.59	-	-	-
1,440.24	666.79	S&P 500	877.52	+4.71	+0.54	-2.85	-37.94	-	-	-
897.37	397.97	S&P MidCap	558.87	-2.27	-0.40	+3.83	-34.32	-	-	-
764.38	342.59	Russell 2000	486.98	-5.58	-0.12	-2.50	-32.90	-	-	-
14,564.81	6,772.29	DJ U.S. TotMkt	8,998.73	+35.69	+0.40	-0.97	-36.86	-	-	-

NYSE

MOST ACTIVE (\$1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
BkOAnm	27,143.03	8.70	-23
Citigrp	24,308.98	2.97	-0.8
DixieFamB	1,253,735	87.89	+4.47
DixieFamB	1,253,735	87.89	+4.47
SPDR Fndl	10,732,95	7.82	-31
FordM	100,031.48	5.69	-40
WellsFargo	9,609,49	19.61	-40
GenElec	7,934,35	12.69	+0.4
JPMorgCh	6,759,48	32.49	-51
AmApparel	8,116	6.60	-15

AMEX

MOST ACTIVE (\$1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
PCSCrudeDL n	306,102	2.94	+.21
DenismM g	218,04	1.99	+.12
Taseko	1,995.5	1.56	+.14
DenismM g	218,04	1.99	+.12
ElkfordCld g	10,761	8.00	+.01
GoldStrd g	9,259	1.36	+.02
NovaGld g	8,647	2.77	+.04
BPZ Res	8,145	5.65	+.20
AmApparel	8,116	6.60	-15

NASDAQ

MOST ACTIVE (\$1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
PwSths QQQ	937,753	34.37	+.09
Microsoft	606,114	20.24	-.02
Apple	499,204	15.31	+.03
Cisco	398,942	19.58	+.26
ETrade	38,968	1.58	+.15
Sequonm	29,239	4.11	+.49
FifthThird	28,319	3.85	-.25
Comcast	24,414	16.36	+.90
ZacksIntr	23,559	14.14	-15

KEY DEFENSE STOCKS

MOST ACTIVE (\$1 OR MORE)

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	% Chg
Alliant Technosystem	..11	82.17	+2.52	-4.2	-
Boeing	1.68	6	+1.16	-3.4	-
Computer Sciences	..11	37.10	+1.14	+5.6	-
General Dynamics	1.52	8	+0.71	-9.0	-
General Electric	.40	8	+12.69	+0.04	-21.7
Halliburton	.36	14	+20.86	+.64	+14.7
Harris Corp.	.80	14	31.17	+.59	+18.1
Lockheed Martin	1.24	11	+11.53	+5.3	+3.7
Northrop Grumman	2.28	10	+10.94	+3.06	+3.0
United Technologies	1.60	49.34	+1.99	+9.5	-
Raytheon	1.24	11	+45.67	+.44	-10.5
Rockwell Intl.	1.16	11	31.93	+.34	-1.0
Texas Instruments	.44	19	17.95	-.11	+15.7
Textron Inc.	.08	8	10.94	+.21	+21.1
United Technologies	1.54	11	49.52	+.68	-7.6

KEY MUTUAL FUNDS

MOST ACTIVE (\$1 OR MORE)

Name	NAV	Chg	% Ret.
Fidelity Invest: GroCo	52.15	+.16	+6.5
Fidelity Spartan FundXInv	31.07	+.17	+1.9
Fidelity Invest: US\$	10.76	-.01	+1.2
Fidelity Invest: GrInCn	12.74	+.02	-3.0
Fidelity Invest: AMGr50	11.42	+.05	+6.0
Fidelity Invest: Overseas	24.34	+.34	-3.0
Amec Century Inv: Ultra	15.09	+.03	+4.4
Putnam Funds: GrInA p	9.27	+.08	-.7
AIM Investments: ChartA p	12.17	+.12	+4.4
AIM Investments: ChartB p	12.17	+.07	+4.4
Frank-Temp Frnk A SmcPdrA	23.44	+.10	+10.6
Gold S	11.11	+.14	+1.8
Fidelity Advisor T: EqnInt	16.22	+.11	-3.9
Fidelity Advisor T: GrOpT	21.07	+.09	+10.7
DWS Invest S: IndFds	33.73	+.48	-2.7
Putnam Funds: GlbEqty p	6.18	+.06	-3.0
Lord Abbett A: DevGta p	11.94	+12.5
Fidelity Advisor T: OrvseaT	12.75	+.17	-5.1
DWS Invest S: CorpFds	9.95	-.01	-5.1

PRECIOUS METALS

New York Merc close

Gold	\$887.60
Silver	\$12.48

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	3.25
Discount rate	0.50
Federal funds market rate	0.00-0.25
3-month bill	0.14
30-year bond	4.08
Sources: Bank of America, The Associated Press	



JASON ARTHURS, RALEIGH (N.C.) NEWS & OBSERVER/MCT

Joe Vance, 17, is one of several teenagers who work at Goodberry's Creamery in Raleigh, N.C.

Teen job hunters face difficult task

By SUE STOCK

McClatchy Newspapers

RALEIGH, N.C. — For many teens, a summer job is a rite of passage and a chance to earn some cash.

But this year, it also will be a pretty hot commodity.

The tight economy and upswing in unemployment mean there are more job seekers and fewer jobs. And those with little to no job experience are going to have to work even harder to secure a spot.

Job search Web site SnagAJob.com found in a recent survey that 73 percent of managers are expecting more applications than last summer but 23 percent expect to hire fewer people than last year.

Of course, that's not to say finding a summer job is impossible.

But especially for teens, it's going to require lots of time, dedication and perseverance — and that's before the first day of work.

"The hiring managers who do have open positions are planning on hiring fewer workers, but the silver lining is the top two items they are [looking for] are a positive attitude and flexible schedule," said SnagAJob spokeswoman Cathy McCarthy. "I think a teen or a student can go head to head with the older worker."

Seventeen-year-old Maggie Gargan has been looking for a summer job since February.

Gargan, a high school senior in Raleigh, N.C., is headed to East Carolina University in the fall to study elementary education and wants to save up some money.

"My dad told me to get a job when I was a junior and I just kind of blew him off," she said. "But now I'm like, 'Oh, I need to have a job.'"

Employers say they have seen an increase in the number of people applying for jobs — not just teenagers.

"It's like buying a house in this economy, you've got the pick of the litter," said Mario Russo, co-owner of Cary Quick Serve Restaurants, which operates three Dunkin' Donuts-Baskin Robins.

The rise in applications from workers can force store owners and managers to make some tough calls.

Matt Barry, the manager of the Dickey's Barbecue Pit restaurant in Cary, N.C., gets applications from teens and adults.

"[The teenager] might need that job for some money, but they don't need that job like a 27- or 28-year-old who has a kid or something," he said. "In the end I've got to look at what I need. Do I have full-time hours for that person with a kid, or do I only have a position with a few shifts a week?"

It's a hard call to make."

Showing you are serious about securing and keeping a job can help your chances, said Dan Mall, local franchisee of eight Jimmy John's stores.

"If you show me you want to work here, that's all I care about," he said. "I don't prefer 16 over 60. . . . Everybody that starts has to memorize the menu in advance. Sometimes people do it, sometimes they don't. If they've done their due diligence on their end, I'll hire them."

Teenagers can especially help their own cause if they are willing to show a long-term commitment to the company, Mall added.

Teens who wait too long or are just unable to find a job this summer should not take that as a license to goof off, said McCarthy of SnagAJob.com. The next best thing is probably to volunteer.

"At least get something on your resume so that next summer you do have something to point to and you do have a reference," she said. "Otherwise you're just another year behind."

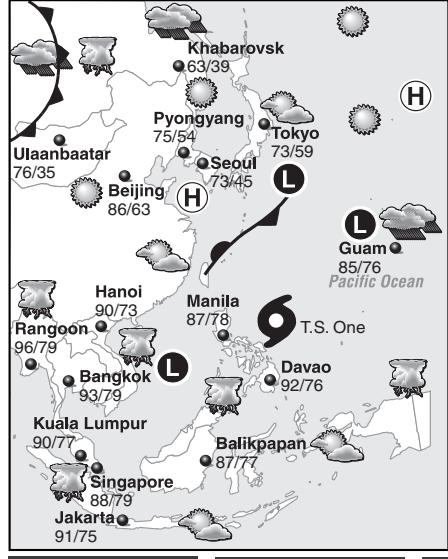
TIDE TABLES

Location	Monday			
	High	Low	High	Low
Japan				
Yokosuka	1:26 a.m.	7:47 a.m.	1:33 p.m.	7:32 p.m.
Sasebo	5:00 a.m.	11:15 a.m.	5:17 p.m.	11:21 p.m.
Naha	3:41 a.m.	9:55 a.m.	3:50 p.m.	10:02 p.m.
Hachinohe	11:12 a.m.	5:37 a.m.	none	5:32 p.m.
Korea				
Cheju Island/Sogwip'o	7:04 a.m.	1:07 a.m.	7:59 p.m.	2:14 p.m.
Kunsan	11:39 a.m.	5:43 a.m.	none	6:47 p.m.
Guam				
Apru Harbor	4:08 a.m.	10:26 a.m.	3:53 p.m.	10:06 p.m.
Location	Tuesday			
	High	Low	High	Low
Japan				
Yokosuka	2:04 a.m.	8:31 a.m.	2:42 p.m.	8:25 p.m.
Sasebo	5:43 a.m.	12:02 p.m.	6:16 p.m.	none
Naha	4:25 a.m.	10:48 a.m.	4:54 p.m.	10:54 p.m.
Hachinohe	12:08 a.m.	6:38 a.m.	12:50 p.m.	6:27 p.m.
Korea				
Cheju Island/Sogwip'o	8:09 a.m.	2:31 a.m.	8:53 p.m.	3:16 p.m.
Kunsan	12:24 a.m.	7:06 a.m.	12:49 p.m.	7:48 p.m.
Guam				
Apru Harbor	4:43 a.m.	11:18 a.m.	5:17 p.m.	11:04 p.m.

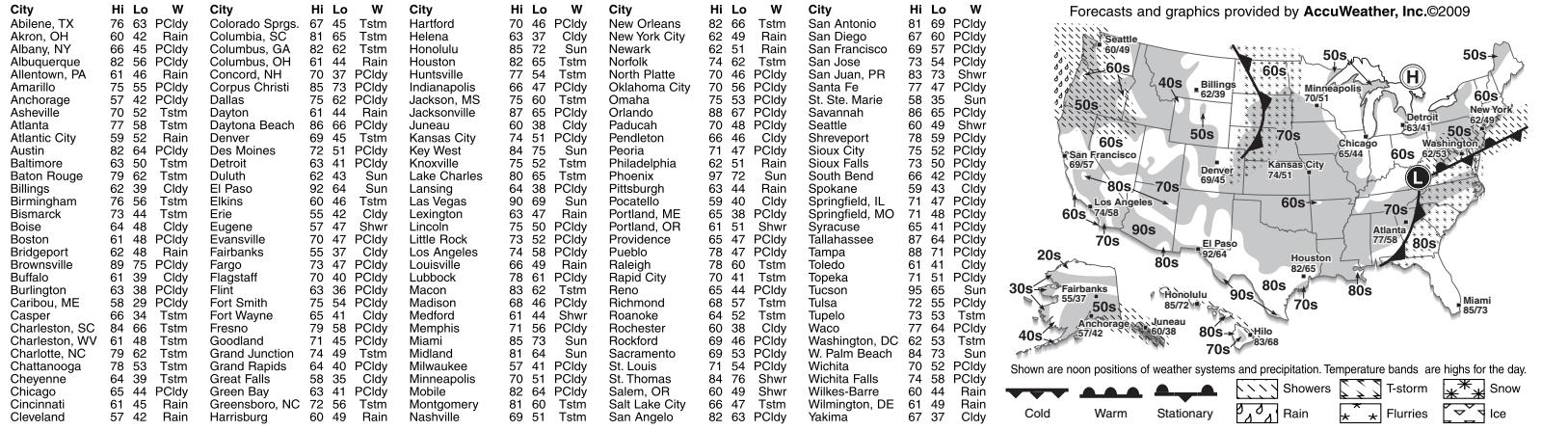
For tides at other sites apply minutes to Naha tides:

Sukku, Ora Wan: +39, Sesoko Byochi: +11 high and low tide:

Unten Ko: -7 high, -8 low, Yonabaru, Buckner Bay: -44 high, -42 low.

**CANADA****EUROPE****MIDDLE EAST**

City	Hi	Lo	W	City	Hi	Lo	W	City	Hi	Lo	W	City	Hi	Lo	W	City	Hi	Lo	W	City	Hi	Lo	W
Calgary	58	37	PCloudy	Amsterdam	54	51	PCloudy	Ashgabat	75	55	PCloudy	Abidjan	87	73	Tstm	Acapulco	87	75	Sun	New Antonio	81	69	PCloudy
Edmonton	62	38	PCloudy	Athens	63	57	Rain	Baghdad	97	71	PCloudy	Algiers	71	47	Sun	Bogota	63	46	Rain	San Diego	67	60	PCloudy
Halifax	57	40	PCloudy	Belgrade	73	50	PCloudy	Cairo	93	63	PCloudy	Cape Town	68	54	Sun	Buenos Aires	63	50	PCloudy	San Francisco	69	57	PCloudy
Iqaluit	21	13	PCloudy	Berlin	58	43	PCloudy	Dhahran	99	76	Sun	Casablanca	79	60	PCloudy	Cancun	86	72	Tstm	Caracas	73	54	PCloudy
Montreal	61	41	PCloudy	Brussels	56	47	PCloudy	Islamabad	101	67	Sun	Durban	79	65	PCloudy	Freetown	91	72	Sun	Kingston	86	76	PCloudy
Ottawa	61	37	PCloudy	Dublin	56	47	Shwr	Incirlik	86	60	PCloudy	Gibraltar	93	70	Sun	Lima	78	59	PCloudy	Kuala Lumpur	91	80	Sun
Quebec	52	36	PCloudy	Glasgow	56	51	Shwr	Kabul	73	46	PCloudy	Kano	93	70	Sun	Mexico City	78	51	Tstm	Manila	91	80	Sun
Regina	64	40	Tstm	Lisbon	77	59	Sun	Kandahar	89	55	Sun	Khartoum	116	84	Sun	Nassau	85	74	Sun	Osaka	92	64	Tstm
Toronto	57	39	PCloudy	London	54	48	PCloudy	Karachi	94	80	Sun	Kisangani	87	68	Tstm	Puerto Plata	85	74	Sun	Porto Alegre	91	82	Tstm
Vancouver	57	47	Shwr	Madrid	77	48	Sun	Kuwait	104	82	Sun	Luanda	85	75	Sun	Rio de Janeiro	76	52	Sun	Prague	84	72	Sun
Whitehorse	61	37	PCloudy	Moscow	68	47	Sun	Mazar-e-Sharif	81	53	PCloudy	Malakal	99	71	PCloudy	Santiago	64	43	Sun	Qatar	87	73	Sun
Windus	60	44	PCloudy	Paris	61	46	PCloudy	Teheran	75	62	Sun	Mogadishu	90	75	Sun	Santo Domingo	84	71	PCloudy	Qatar	87	73	Sun
Winnipeg	65	46	PCloudy	Rome	68	50	Sun	Tel Aviv	89	63	Sun	Tabora	84	61	Sun	San Jose	75	68	Tstm	Tunis	78	46	PCloudy
Yellowknife	48	25	Sun	Warsaw	71	42	Sun	Zahedan	79	55	Sun	Timbuktu	116	67	Sun								

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New Year's) for 50 cents daily and \$1 Sunday by the Stars and Stripes central
office, 529 14th St. NW, Suite 350, Washington DC 20045-1301. Periodicals
postage paid at San Francisco, Calif. Postmaster: Send address changes to
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Trouble at the top and bottom

Today's Army is unhealthy and in need of change. Senior leaders at most line units are in retirement mode, just riding their time out with no real jobs or responsibility — which leaves them with ample amounts of time to overburden the middle ranking noncommissioned officers who are striving to do what's right and what needs to be done.

This is all well and good except that, with the push for numbers, all lower enlisted support (minus the small amount of good soldiers) coming into the military today are overprivileged, under-disciplined babies who have been pushed through basic training, sometimes never actually meeting the minimum requirements to pass.

The Army as a whole needs to have its core shaken up to re-energize the apathetic senior leaders at the battery/company and battalion levels. Then it needs to have its body reinforced with soldiers who are here to serve their country loyally and dutifully. To those who have a hand in new soldiers' or old soldiers' daily lives: Do the right thing. Do the Army thing and be a shining example for the rest of the world. I feel caught in the middle in a time when it doesn't pay to be caught in the middle.

Sgt. Michael Moore
*Contingency Operating Base Summers,
Iraq*

Classical music won't work

Regarding "Classical music can calm us" (letter, April 30): The letter writer has her opinion and I respect that. But she is living in a world of make-believe.

We can only control what we can control. There are some things that are just out of our hands.

If we put classical music in the grocery stores, don't you think there will be people complaining how boring that is? I may or may not. I do like some classical music, but not when I'm shopping for food. Besides, there is no law that says you have to bring your kids to the commissary and, even if you do, how long do you want to stay there? When I was a kid, I hated going to the store. To get out of going the letter writer's son could just repeat a word and tell her he heard it from the commissary (which, for kids, is a genius plan).

Moms should stop trying to rule the world of morality. Sooner or later their kids will be saying the same kinds of things the radio personalities are. Those kids could become rock stars or comedians, or movie stars who star in R-rated movies, even though they've been raised "clean." It happens, get over it. Don't try to raise other people's children.

Spc. Elisha D. VanDell
Camp Virginia, Kuwait

What's in it for the Army?

What is a repeal of the "don't ask, don't tell" policy going to actually gain? Gays would have the right to join the military, but would they be welcomed?

I am in an infantry company and while I am not a homophobe, there are people I

Tell us what you think

Stars and Stripes welcomes your comments on editorials and columns that are published in the newspaper, and values letters on topics of importance in the lives of our readers. All letters must be signed, and must include the writer's address or base and telephone number. Please limit all letters to 300 words. We reserve the right to edit letters for length, taste and clarity.

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decisions to lift their gay bans undermined military performance, readiness, or cohesion, led to increased difficulties in recruiting or retention."

It would appear that the argument against gays openly serving is merely religious. So, as the case is laid out, it would appear fundamentalist Christians are attempting to inject religion into government. My personal opinion would be swayed with the introduction of facts or historical analysis, not just a bunch of "what ifs."

Sgt. Victor Rodriguez
Al Asad, Iraq

Africa article too pessimistic

The May 3 article "The starving mothers of Africa" deserves comment.

First, the title and content re-enforce the stereotype of food shortages in Africa. Actually, most African countries have agrarian-based economies, with fertile soil and ample rain, and adequately feed most of their populations. I've seen this firsthand during my nine trips to 14 African countries. Indeed, some of these countries export food. For example, I've been to grocery shops in Dijon, France, that have fruits labeled: "produits de Cote d'Ivoire" (products of Ivory Coast).

Where there have been localized food shortages, these problems have generally been caused by conflicts that disrupted food distribution.

As to African women taking care of their children before themselves, we should laud their generosity of spirit and virtuous behavior. Human genome evidence indicates that the entire human race extant today is descended from one African woman (dubbed "Mitochondrial Eve") who lived 200,000 years ago. If she had selfishly thought of herself before nurturing her children, none of us would be here today.

The many positive aspects of Africa and Africans should be more accurately represented.

Maj. Ralph Groves
Camp Striker, Iraq

Letters made Stripes better

As the editor at European Stars and Stripes who, in 1991, implemented the policy to open the pages of this newspaper to comment by the readers, with the requirement that letter writers take responsibility for those comments by signing their names, I find it gratifying indeed to see how far Stripes has come.

When I joined Stripes, letters rarely were printed, and those that were chosen for publication frequently were accompanied by an "official" response. There was concern at the time that requiring names would deter readers from writing, or limit their expression of true feelings and viewpoints. A review of recent letters to the editor certainly disproves that notion.

Stripes is a better newspaper today for its free flow of opinion on the letters page, which reflects so much of the "human condition" of our valiant forces. I'm proud to have had a hand in that.

Bern Zovostoski
Tucson, Ariz.

Doonesbury

OPINION

100 days of the good, the bad, the Geithner

It's hard to believe that President Barack Obama has only been in office for such a short time, but sometimes 100 days feels like more than 100 days. This is one of those times. Obama's first 100 days in office have been among the most eventful in history.

So how's it going? According to **Arianna Huffington**, American people, pretty darn good. Not only does 69 percent of the public approve of the job Obama is doing but, last month, for the first time since January 2004, more Americans felt the country is headed in the right direction than in the wrong direction (48 percent to 44 percent) ...

In his acceptance speech on election night, Obama warned that "the road ahead will be long," and "our climb will be steep." But his poll numbers are a vindication of the idea that, with the right leadership, Americans are mature enough to heed those words and not expect immediate results.

So any list of the most impressive achievements of Obama's first 100 days should start with the intangible qualities of transformational leadership — from the president's personal equanimity (which Robert Reich described as "the serene center of the cyclone — exuding calm when most Americans are petrified") to his masterful use of the bully pulpit. ... Obama's willingness to speak directly to the American people — in town halls around the country, on YouTube, on Leno, on ESPN, etc — and to engage with them by answering questions online and reading 10 letters a day from the public, is a powerful reminder that the White House isn't a privatized bubble or underground bunker off limits to the people. He has also offered tone setters that are a useful reminder that the president is more than just the country's chief executive — that he and the first lady are also potentially the country's chief teachers. ...

Now to the more tangible aspects of his presidency. Let's start with the pluses:

■ The stimulus package. It wasn't big or bold enough, and it suffered from the malodorous scent of Eau de Congressional Business as Usual, but the speed and focus with which it was passed showed how serious Obama was about pulling America out of its economic freefall. ...

■ Passing and signing the national service bill. ... Creating a system in which more people can feel as if they're true stakeholders in their communities will not

only produce physical benefits, it will help repair America's moral infrastructure. ...

■ Reversing course on stem cells. It was a clear statement about the return of the reality-based world. ...

■ A progressive budget. Health care, provisions to tackle rising economic inequality, a more rational defense budget, tax cuts for all but the very wealthy. As David Leonhardt of The New York Times wrote, Obama's budget is "nothing less than an attempt to end a three-decade era of economic policy dominated by the ideas of Ronald Reagan and his supporters."

■ Foreign relations. From granting his first presidential interview to Al-Arabiya TV to loosening the embargo on Cuba to hanging an "open" sign on the State Department, Obama has signaled that the bellicose days of antagonism as our default foreign policy position are over. ...

■ The rescue of Richard Phillips. Blowing away fears of a seafaring "Black Hawk Down," Obama's restrained, behind-the-scenes handling of the hostage situation demonstrated that the new commander in chief is not afraid to pull the trigger when an American life is on the line. ...

A solid run of pluses. Now for the minuses:

■ The bank bailout. In his appointments at almost every agency, Obama has demonstrated a desire to receive a wide range of opinion. But the exception is a doozy: At Treasury, the range of opinion goes all the way from Goldman to Sachs. Several hundred billion dollars later, the banks still aren't lending, the zombies are still on their feet, preferred shareholders are still being catered to, the knowledge of where our money has gone is spotty at best, and oversight and transparency remain unfulfilled promises. ...

■ Afghanistan. Obama has committed 21,000 more troops but, as many people, including Obama, have noted, there is no exclusively military solution. ...

■ Torture accountability. ... The minute the president starts framing the issue as a matter of right vs. wrong, his choices will be clear. Because if there is one thing Obama cannot afford to abandon, it's the moral high ground.

■ Sensible gun control. ... Obama has chosen the path of political expediency and turned his back on his campaign promise to reinstate a ban on assault weapons.

For the last eight years, we suffered from the soft bigotry of low presidential expectations. Taken as a whole, Obama's first 100 days have been an inspiring change from a White House that expected little from us as it did from itself.

The road ahead is indeed going to be long and steep. But at least we're on the right road.

The torture comes in hearing complaints

Without any pretense of an argument, which liberals are neurologically incapable of, the mainstream media are now asserting that our wussy interrogation techniques at Guantanamo constituted "torture" and have irreparably harmed America's image abroad.

Only the second of those alleged facts is true: The president's release of the Department of Justice interrogation memos undoubtedly hurt America's image abroad, as we are snickered at in capitals around the world, where they know what real torture is. The Arabs surely view these memos as a pack of lies. *What about the pills Americans have to turn us gay?*

The techniques used against the most stalwart al-Qaida members ... included one terrifying procedure referred to as "the attention grasp." As described in horrifying detail in the Justice Department memo, the "attention grasp" consisted of "grasping the individual with both hands, one hand on each side of the collar opening, in a controlled and quick motion. In the same motion as the grasp, the individual is drawn toward the interrogator."

The end.

There are rumors that Dick "Darth Vader" Cheney wanted to take away the interrogators' Altoids before they administered "the grasp," but Department of Justice lawyers deemed this too cruel.

And that's not all! As the torments were gradually increased, next up the interrogation ladder came "walling." This involves pushing the terrorist against a flexible wall, during which his head and neck are supported with a rolled hood or towel that provides a C-collar effect to prevent whiplash. People pay to have a lot rougher stuff done to them at Six Flags Great Adventure. ...

As the memo darkly notes, walling doesn't cause any pain, but is supposed to induce terror by making a "loud noise": "[T]he false wall is in part constructed to create a loud sound when the individual hits it, which will further shock and surprise. (!!!)

If you need a few minutes to compose yourself after being subjected to that horror, feel free to take a break from reading now. Sometimes a cold compress on the forehead is helpful, but don't let it drip or you might end up waterboarding yourself.

The CIA's interrogation techniques

couldn't be more ridiculous if they were out of Monty Python's Spanish Inquisition sketch:

Cardinal! Poke her with the soft cushions! ...

Hmm! She is made of harder stuff! Cardinal Fang! Fetch ... THE COMFY CHAIR!

So you think you are strong because you can survive the soft cushions. Well, we shall see. Biggles! Put her in the Comfy Chair! ...

Now — you will stay in the Comfy Chair until lunchtime, with only a cup of coffee at 11.

Further up the torture ladder — from Guantanamo, not Monty Python — comes the "insult slap," which is designed to be virtually painless, but involves the interrogator invading "the individual's personal space." If that doesn't work, the interrogator shows up the next day wearing the same outfit as the terrorist. (Awkward.)

I will spare you the gruesome details of the CIA's other comical interrogation techniques and leap directly to the penultimate "torture" in their arsenal: the caterpillar. In this unspeakable brutality, a harmless caterpillar is placed in the terrorist's cell. Justice Department lawyers expressly denied the interrogators' request to trick the terrorist into believing the caterpillar was a "stinging insect."

Human rights groups have variously described being trapped in a cell with a live caterpillar as "brutal," "soul-wrenching" and, of course, "adorable."

If the terrorist manages to survive the non-stinging caterpillar maneuver — the most fiendish method of torture ever devised by the human mind that didn't involve being forced to watch "The View" — CIA interrogators had another sadistic trick up their sleeves.

I am not at liberty to divulge the details, except to mention the procedure's terror-inducing name: "the ladybug."

Finally, the most savage interrogation technique at Guantanamo was "waterboarding," which is only slightly rougher than the Comfy Chair.

Thousands of our troops are waterboarded every year as part of their training, but not until it was done to Khalid Sheik Mohammed — mastermind of the Sept. 11 attacks on America — were liberal consciences shocked. ...

As non-uniformed combatants, all of the detainees at Guantanamo could have been summarily shot on the battlefield under the Laws of War. Instead, we gave them comfy chairs, free lawyers, better food than is served in Afghan caves, prayer rugs, recreational activities and top-flight medical care — including one terrorist who was released, whereupon he rejoined the jihad against America, after being fitted for an expensive artificial leg at Guantanamo, courtesy of the U.S. taxpayer.

Only three terrorists ... were waterboarded. This is not nearly as bad as "snowboarding," which is known to cause massive buttocks pain and results in approximately 10 deaths per year.

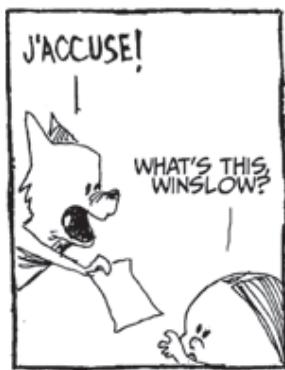
Normal human beings — especially those who grew up with my older brother, Jimmy — can't read the interrogation memos without laughing.

At Al-Jazeera, they don't believe these interrogation memos are for real. Muslims look at them and say: *THIS IS ALL THEY'RE DOING? We do that for practice. We do that to our friends.*

But The New York Times is populated with people who can't believe they live in a country where people would put a caterpillar in a terrorist's cell.



BY SCOTT STANTIS



BY SCOTT STANTIS

Senate votes for 'Choose Life' plate

TX AUSTIN — Texas would add "Choose Life" to the state catalog of specialty license plates under a bill given preliminary approval by the state Senate.

Texas would join 19 other states that have similar plates. Like those states, the Texas proposal would raise money for groups that assist women considering adoption and infants waiting to be adopted.

Specialty plates typically cost about \$30.

The "Choose Life" plates bill sponsored by Sen. John Carona, R-Dallas, passed the Senate 22-9 on a preliminary vote with no debate. It still needs a final vote before it goes to the House, where more than half of the 150 members have signed on in support of a similar bill. If it passes there, it is expected to be signed into law by Republican Gov. Rick Perry, who has publicly supported the measure.

The nine votes against the bill were from eight Democrats and one Republican.

The money could be used to pay for clothing, housing, prenatal care, food, utilities and transportation for women considering placing their children for adoption, and provide for the needs of children waiting to be placed with families.

Bill would forgive college loans of veterinarians

VT MONTPELIER — The Vermont Legislature is considering a bill that would help alleviate a shortage of large animal veterinarians by helping them repay their college loans.

The bill is designed to attract more veterinarians to practice in Vermont.

Thirteen other states have similar loan forgiveness programs.

A Tufts University study says that to sustain the current number, the state needs at least 70 new vets by 2014. State veterinarian Kristin Haas says that means 13 new large animal vets are needed.

Sisters, ages 65 and 70, arrested in heroin bust

PA ALLENTOWN — Elizabeth Marie Grube, 70, and her sister, Elaine Volkert, 65, would seem to most people to be typical women of their age, living modest lives in their mobile home park just outside Stroudsburg.

But authorities said the two sisters had been arrested and charged with dealing heroin — about \$10,000 worth apiece per week — from their trailers tucked off Route 611 in Stroud Township. Investigators said an Allentown man, Julio Cesar Checo, 28, who also was arrested and charged, was suspected of recruiting the women.

Authorities said the sisters received large shipments of heroin that they packaged into bags that sold for \$10 to \$20.

After receiving a complaint about suspected drug dealing in the trailer park, police set up an undercover investigation and subsequently executed a search warrant at the sisters' homes and found



AMERICAN ROUNDUP

more than 1,400 bags of heroin.

Police believe the sisters had been dealing heroin supplied by Checo for at least six months.

Remains of missing '30s vagabond poet identified

UT SALT LAKE CITY — Researchers said a skeleton found last year in Utah's redrock country is that of a 20-year-old artist, poet and wanderer who disappeared in the 1930s and has been the stuff of Western lore and Navajo legend ever since.

The bones of Everett Ruess, a self-described vagabond from California, were discovered by a grandson of a Navajo elder who, according to a family story, had witnessed the young man's murder by other Native Americans and was haunted by it.

Ruess' remains and a few artifacts were found last May in a rock crevice against a cliff wall at Comb Ridge in remote southeastern Utah, about 60 miles from Escalante, the town where he set off for his final wilderness journey.

Researchers from the University of Colorado announced that genetic and forensic tests, including DNA comparisons with four nephews and nieces, left no doubt the remains were Ruess'.

Ruess was known for his landscape block prints and was a gifted writer who explored the Southwest over much of four years. In his final, Nov. 11, 1934, letter to



Splashy soccer

Sydney Rouech, 11, splashes in muddy water during soccer practice at Heritage High School in Saginaw Township, Mich.

his brother, Everett, wrote that "as to when I revisit civilization, it will not be soon" and "it is enough that I am surrounded with beauty." He added, "This has been a full, rich year. I have left no strange or delightful thing undone."

Thief steals 2 wheels from top cop's car

CA OAKLAND — Even California's top law enforcement official isn't immune to petty crime.

Attorney General Jerry Brown's office said a thief made off with the two passenger-side wheels from his state-owned Toyota Camry hybrid as it was parked outside his Oakland home.

Brown wrote about the crime on his Facebook page, saying "even though I am California's 'top cop,' 2 of my tires were stolen. No matter. I got 2 new ones and I'm rolling again!"

Oakland Police Sgt. Rich Vierra says no arrests have been made. Police don't know if the culprit knew the car was used by the attorney general.

Brown is a former two-term governor of California and a former mayor of Oakland.

Man shoves officer to join brother in jail

AK FAIRBANKS — An Alaska man shoved a police officer just so he could join his brother in jail.

Thirty-five-year-old David Jacob Ginnis pleaded guilty to assault on a police officer and was sentenced to 30 days in jail, with the full sentence suspended.

Ginnis' brother was accused of getting into a fight in Fairbanks and was arrested on a criminal trespass charge.

Police say Ginnis, who appeared intoxicated, approached the arresting officer and asked if he could speak with his brother, who was in the back of a patrol car.

After five minutes, Ginnis asked if he could join his brother in jail if he assaulted the officer.

The officer told him that would "not go well" for him, but Ginnis shoved the officer with his fist.

Mannequin poses threat of bust to barbecue joint

OH READING — A man who runs a Cincinnati-area barbecue joint says the busty mannequin he tethered to the front of the building has been good for business, but city officials say he needs a permit to keep her there.

Under Reading city rules, the 5-foot-10 brunette is considered a sign and requires a permit.

Restaurateur Kenny Tessel says the bikini-clad figure in the tight short-shorts cost him nearly \$200, but he quickly made that back in profit.

He already has made one change. He removed a chain that kept the mannequin latched to a utility pole after police said that was against the sign code.

Tessel had chained the mannequin because he said he didn't want some "yahoo" tossing her into the back of a pickup truck.



Rummaging through drinks

Calif., try a white rum-based cocktail made with Batiste Rhum Blanc at the San Francisco Ministry of Rum Festival in Alameda, Calif.



Open for passage

Shane McBurney, right, and Shauna Budge maneuver their kayaks through the open water of the Chena River just downstream of the Chushman Street Bridge in Fairbanks, Alaska.



Would you look at that

Fifth-graders from Roswell, N.M., armed with binoculars, observe different species of birds during a field trip to Bottomless Lakes State Park hosted by Audubon New Mexico.



Holy hot cakes

Mexican wrestlers Renegado and Mr. Tempest look at an image of what they believe is "Our Lady of

Guadalupe" on a griddle at Las Palmas restaurant in Calexico, Calif. Restaurant manager Brenda Martinez says more than 100 people have flocked to the small town on the California-Mexico border to gaze at the image, seen at right, since a cook noticed the image on the griddle as it was being cleaned. "This is amazing. It's a true miracle," said Mr. Tempest while gazing in awe at the image. Since the discovery, the griddle has been taken out of service and placed in a shrine in a storage room.



Board to frisbee team: No pants, no season

OR PORTLAND — In the world of intercollegiate Ultimate Frisbee, it's ultimately not cool to go without pants.

So said a student board that governs club sports at the University of Oregon when it ended a highly ranked team's season after five players shed their pants and underwear April 11 during sectional play at Oregon State University in Corvallis.

Sandie Hammerly, executive director of the sport's governing body in the United States, the Ultimate Players Association in Boulder, Colo., said she and the association's championship director, Will Deaver, support the punishment.

"You have to wear clothing — it's in the rules," Hammerly said.

Tailgate of police car leads to pot arrests

MA FRAMINGHAM — Two suspected pot dealers have been arrested after Framingham police said the pair tailgated an unmarked police car.

Police said 23-year-old Jonathan Gonzalez of Leominster and 19-year-old Framingham resident Felicia Deneen tailgated the police vehicle and were later stopped.

Police said when officers asked the driver, Deneen, for her license and registration, several individually wrapped baggies of marijuana were "in plain view" in the glove box.

When Gonzalez got out, police said, he dropped cocaine from his pocket. Both were charged with possession of marijuana with intent to distribute and possession of cocaine.

Forest Service trying to halt spread of bat disease

WV CHARLESTON — The U.S. Forest Service is preparing to close thousands of caves and former mines in national forests in 33 states in an effort to control a fungus that has already killed an estimated 500,000 bats.

Forest Service biologist Becky Ewing said an emergency order was issued for caves in 20 states from Minnesota to Maine. A second order covering the Forest Service's 13-state Southern region is to be issued.

The sites will be closed for up to a year, she said.

Panel continues fight against nuclear dump

NV CARSON CITY — While heartened by the Obama administration's opposition to a high-level nuclear waste dump at Nevada's Yucca Mountain, a state panel fighting the project was told it can't let up on its efforts.

"We really can't relent until we know for certain we've accomplished what we set out to do," Senior Deputy Attorney General Marta Adams told the state Nuclear Projects Commission.

Adams said the proposed federal dump "is on its way to dying" but added the problem, "like a prisoner on death row, is now we've got endless appeals" aimed at keeping

the federal Department of Energy project alive.

HIV cases up among young people in El Paso

TX EL PASO — Cases of people testing positive for the human immunodeficiency virus, which can lead to AIDS, are up overall and among young people in El Paso.

The city's Department of Public Health shows that 22 cases of HIV have been reported in the first three months of this year. There were 64 cases of HIV reported in all of 2008.

Among the 2009 HIV infections, more than half are in people younger than 35. Experts say that's a change from 2004, when most new HIV infections were in men older than 35.

Police search beach for missing N.Y. teen

SC MYRTLE BEACH — A 17-year-old New York girl remains missing after a weekend trip to Myrtle Beach.

Police Capt. David Knipes said officers continue to scour the town along with the girl's mother, Dawn Drexel.

Police say Brittanee Drexel was last seen after she left a group of friends who had traveled from Rochester, N.Y., to visit people at another hotel. Maids told police they saw a girl fitting Drexel's description get off a bus near the hotel where she had been staying. Knipes said police have confirmed it wasn't Brittanee.

Great Lakes fleet hurt by slumping economy

MN DULUTH — This shipping season is shaping up as an unusually tough one for freighters on the Great Lakes, with half of the Duluth-based fleet out of service.

The 767-foot Philip R. Clarke and Arthur M. Anderson, plus the 858-foot Roger Blough all are inactive, waiting for demand to improve.

Glen Nekvasil of the Lake Carriers Association says there's no doubt the number of inactive ships is a sign of poor demand.

He says just eight of the American steel industry's 36 blast furnaces in the Great Lakes region are operating, which means there's less demand for ore pellets from the Iron Range.

Town with topless coffee shop revises nudity ban

ME VASSALBORO — The board of selectmen in the town where a topless coffee shop raised eyebrows when it opened earlier this year has revised its anti-nudity ordinance.

The town of Vassalboro is no longer proposing to ban partial or full nudity at local businesses.

The Central Maine Morning Sentinel says a revised ordinance would specifically regulate where, when and how those businesses may operate in town. A public hearing is set for May 14, and a final vote will be held at the June 8 town meeting.

Horoscope

In order to take advantage of the productive energy this Virgo moon offers, you might have to roll up your sleeves and get into something messy, either literally or figuratively. Once you get working, you'll find out that appearances are worse than the actual problem. Clever fixes, speedy solutions and instant improvements abound!

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (MAY 4).

Your humor lights up the world this year. People feel comfortable around you. You contribute something positive to the social scene. This month, you will be promoted within an organization. You produce a sensational piece of work in July. Complete some training in August. Finances perk up in September. Capricorn and Pisces adore you.

ARIES (March 21-April 19).

There are too many questions directed at you today and you cannot possibly answer them all. Sometimes your silence will say more than words ever could.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20).

It's rare that you will allow yourself to vent your frustration to a friend. Take advantage of the chance to unload your burden on a willing listener. Your confidante will feel accomplished in having been there for you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21).

Your excitement about an upcoming event is building. In the beginning, you didn't think this was such a big deal, but you now realize how important this might be. And it will be fun to make more preparations.

CANCER (June 22-July 22).

You will be dealing with sensitive, creative types. You are required to give direction and it's a dicey proposition. There is a fine line between constructive and deflating criticism, but you'll strike the right balance.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).

If you find that you're disappointed in your own behavior and internally chastis-

Holiday Mathis



ing yourself, consider that you probably did the best you could at the time. Now is a new moment and is not well spent dwelling on past mistakes.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).

You'll be even more sensitive than usual to the energy of people you see every day. You may notice that someone is going through an emotionally intense time, either a high or a low. Reach out and share.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).

Someone seems interested in you, but their interest ebbs and flows. You're not sure what to make of it. It will benefit you to stop caring what this person thinks of you. Aloof equals attractive.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).

You could be asked to make a sacrifice in the name of love. It might be a small concession, but it's the meaning of it that matters. Is it loving for the other person to ask you to do this? Consider this move carefully.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).

Though you are feeling independent, in order to accomplish what you want to accomplish, you really need a partner. Be choosy. Seek one whose strengths are your weaknesses.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).

The phone will ring with calls you shouldn't answer. Your time is your most precious commodity. Your privacy is a cherished gift. Protect these assets from unwanted intrusion.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).

There are a number of things you used to be frightened of that don't bother you in the least now. Think about all you've overcome in your lifetime and take on that monstrous issue that's on your mind.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).

Life is demanding you to do the impossible. It's as though the people in charge think you're limitless. Well, maybe you're more amazing than you give yourself credit for being. When the pressure is on, you perform magic tricks.

Creators Syndicate

SUDOKU

Difficulty: Very Easy

Fill in the boxes so that each row, column and 3-by-3 square includes the digits 1 through 9. For solution, tips and computer program, see www.sudoku.com

Yesterday's solution

9	6	7	2	1	5	8	3	4
2	8	3	0	9	4	7	5	1
1	4	5	7	0	3	6	2	9
8	3	5	9	1	4	2	8	6
6	7	4	3	5	8	9	1	2
5	2	1	9	7	6	4	3	8
7	1	6	8	2	9	3	4	5
4	9	2	5	3	7	1	6	0
3	5	8	4	0	1	2	9	7

3	4	2		9				
7	5		4		1	2		
			6	7	3	4		
4	1	8		6	2			
			9					
7			8		1	3	5	
8	4	7						
5			2	6				
2	6	5		8	9			



Puzzles

Cartoons

Baby Blues

Dollhouse

Book Review

Home

Letter or Note



Eugene Sheffer Crossword

1	2	3	4		6	8	7		9	10	11
12					13				14		
15					16			17			
18			19		20						
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31				22			33		34		
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			39	40	41						
42	43				44	45			46	47	48
49					50				51		
52					52				54		
55					56				57		

ACROSS

- 1 Cushions
3 Insecticide
letters
6 Cooking hat
12 Coat-of-thous-
ands movie
13 Blackbird
14 Medley
15 New Age musi-
cian John
16 Sack votes
18 But
20 Fireborn
21 Baseball legend
Willie
23 Longing
24 Showy white
flower
28 Appointment
31 Sapporo sail
32 Blunder
34 Bell pepper
38 Rust in peace
39 "Gentle on My
Mind" singer
40 Eye opossum
41 Untrustworthy
sort
42 Slept soundly?
45 Monkey in a lab,
maybe
48 Victoria's Secret
buy
51 "— Karenina"
52 "Be it!"
53 Scratch
- 54 Drunkards
55 Titanic thwarted
56 Type square
57 Palms
- 19 Tropical tree
22 Twine fiber
24 Gear tooth
25 Liner's org.
26 Incorrect form
27 Fine
29 Avv prosector
30 Slithery
swimmer
33 Colorful fish
38 Removing rind
39 Item in a KFC
bucket
40 "Of course!"
42 Wound cover
43 Appellation
44 Capital cap
45 Winter forecast
47 "Do — others..."
48 Book talk
50 Felonious flight

Answer to Previous Puzzle

T	O	R	A	H	S	I	T	A	K	E	8
L	A	R	E	D	O		T	H	R	I	L
B	A	L	O	M		G	R	E	L	S	E
D	E	L	I		E	S	A	L	A	W	
R	U	B	S	O	R	E	L	A	O	P	
P	S	Y	C	H	O	A	N	Y	Z	E	
M	A	T	H	M	I	T	T	S	D	W	
H	A	W	T	R	A	Y					
A	P	E	R	I	B	O	G	L			
N	E	W	T	O	N	A	Z	U	R	E	9
T	R	A	I	T	G	T	E	N	O	N	G
S	T	Y	L	E	T		Y	E	G	G	9

5-4

CRYPTOQUID

ZGKC AGK FAKT ZHN NADWEKW
KIAIKTKXE AGQIQDUQXE
OB NPCUKL WFRCH, GHW

FA OKKC IQNN-KINTFCKW?
Saturday's Cryptquip: BORN IN AFRICA
BUT BROUGHT UP IN PORTUGAL, THIS MAN
CONSIDERED HIMSELF A LIBERIAN IBERIAN.

Today's Cryptquip Clue: A equals T

Time to make peace is now

Dear Abby: A former long-time friend, "Gladys," and I have been estranged for the past 10 years.

It is a complicated situation, but generally it involved her divorce and later involvement with a married man.

While I am not a prude, there were some moral and ethical breaches on her part which made it uncomfortable for me to be in her company.

We stopped calling or seeing each other.

Gladys has now become quite ill and may not survive.

My dilemma is whether I should pay my respects to her family at the time of her death. I have known them all for many years.

— Remaining Nameless in Virginia

Dear Remaining Nameless: Funerals are supposed to pro-

vide comfort for the living, and I don't see how the presence of someone who describes herself as a "former" friend of their loved one would achieve that.

I have a suggestion. Why not pick up the phone, call Gladys and tell her how sorry you were to learn of her illness?

Whether you approved of her divorce and affair, you have years of history together, and it would be better for both of you to make peace while there's still time.

Dear Abby: I work in the office of an elementary school. There is a lot to do, and I am frequently interrupted. While I enjoy conversations with parents and students, my problem is a few parents who want to engage in lengthy conversations — usually detailing personal problems.

One parent comes in daily, and

I haven't found an effective way to extricate myself from these conversations.

Walking out of the office is not an option.

A ringing phone is not a deterrent as some parents will just stand there, wait until I finish and continue talking.

Have you any suggestions on how to politely let these parents know I have a job to do?

— Job Interrupted Out West

Dear Job Interrupted: Allow me to offer one: How about telling them you're behind in your work and you haven't the time to talk that day. Period.

Unless you become more assertive, these people will continue to monopolize your time, make you less effective and possibly jeopardize your job.

Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles CA 90069. Readers can write to Abby on the Internet at <http://www.uepress.com/dearabby> Universal Press Syndicate

Dear Abby



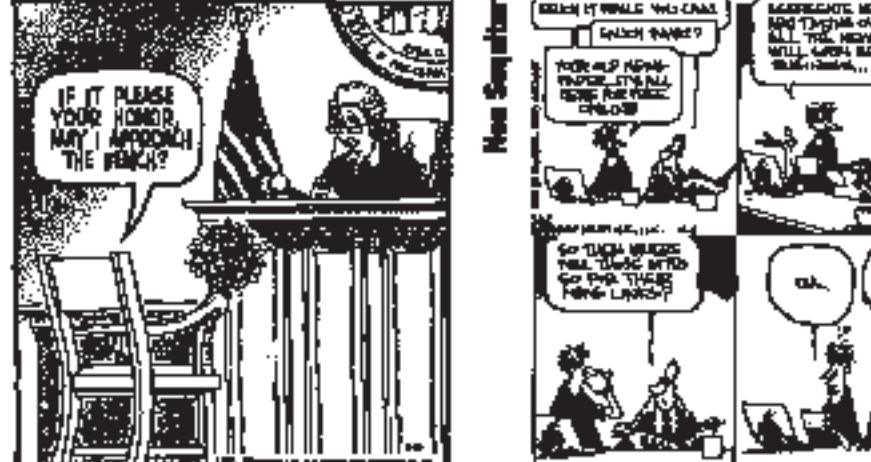
Penult. Before Bedtime



B.C.



Peanuts by Charles M. Schulz



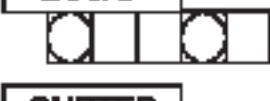
JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

CHURS



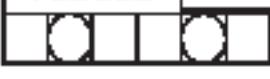
EUSAP



GURTED



FLOUBE



THAT SCRABBLE WORD GAME

by Mike Agnello and Jeff Knutson



WHAT THE BIKE RACER FELT WHEN HE FIXED THE FLAT TIRE

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer suggested by the above caption.

Answer here: 

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's

Jumble: THYME GIMME SMOKER BEGSTOW
Answer: How he felt when his wife bought a big diamond — "STONE" BROKE

Speed Bump



AFRTS Television ScheduleUpdated sports listings are available on AFN's Web site at <http://myafn.dodmedia.osd.mil/>

SUNDAY, MAY 3, 2009

	(AFN-ATLANTIC)	(AFN-FAMILY)	(AFN-MOVIE)	(AFN-NEWS)	(AFN-PACIFIC)	(PENTAGON)	(SPECTRUM)	(AFN-SPORTS)	(XTRA)
9:00	(8:00) Sports	The Magic School Bus	(7:00) MovieContact	Washington Week	Life on the Way	USARJ This Week	The Universe "Alien Planets"	(8:00) NBA Basketball Teams to Be Announced.	Sports
9:30		Fetch! With Ruff Ruffman	(40) Movie "Someone to Watch Over Me" (1987, Suspense) Tom Berenger, Mimi Rogers, Lorraine Bracco.	Army Newswatch	T.D. Jakes	FNG Useful benefits.	I Shouldn't Be Alive Kayakers become separated.		
10:00		Codename: Kid		Today's Air Force	Love Worth Finding	Fit For Duty			
10:30		Archie's Weird Mysteries		The Chris Matthews Show	The Pure Life	Battleground		NBA Basketball Teams to Be Announced.	
11:00	Sports	Growing Pains "Call Me"		Newsroom	Grand Ole Opry Live	Recon Revisited	Extreme Engineering "Tunneling Under the Alps"		
11:30		Planet's Funniest Animals	(25) Movie "Titanic" (1997, Drama) Leonardo DiCaprio, Kate Winslet, Billy Zane. A woman falls for an artist aboard the ill-fated ship.	Journal Editorial Report	Coming Home: Military	Battleground	The Suze Orman Show		
12:00		Nick News		The Beltway Boys	At the Movies	Today's Air Force			
12:30		The Brady Bunch		Larry King Live	Digging for the Truth "The Search for El Dorado"	All Hands TV	Rick Steves' Europe	Inside the NBA	
13:00	McLaughlin Group	Movie "My Neighbor Totoro" (1988) Voices of Hitoshi Takagi, Noriko Hidaka.		Geraldo at Large	Explorer "Super Carrier"	Week-Pentagon	Quick Fix Meals		
13:30	ESPN News				Recon Revisited	Iron Chef America Chefs compete.	Iron Chef America Chefs compete.	SportsCenter	
14:00	Washington Week				The American Veteran				
14:30	House Call	Movie "Right on Track"							
15:00	Entertainers			Huckabee	Anthony Bourdain: No Reservations "China"	Fit For Duty	Star Trek: Voyager "Nothing Human"	SportsCenter	Sports
15:30				FOX Report	Dirty Jobs The profession of hot-tar roofing.	Week-Pentagon	Heroes "Hiro's"	NBA Basketball Teams to Be Announced.	
16:00	Life on the Way	Honey We're Killing the Kids "Crisis Cholesterol"		This Week at War	Survivor: Tocantins "They Both Went Bananas"	Army Newswatch			
16:30	T.D. Jakes				The Grill Sergeants	King of the Hill			
17:00	Love Worth Finding	SpongeBob SquarePants			Sun City Soldier	That '70s Show			
17:30	The Pure Life	The Fairly OddParents		Glenn Beck	The Chris Matthews Show	Recon	The King of Queens		
18:00	Grand Ole Opry Live	Planet Earth "Shallow Seas"		Newsroom	20/20	Today's Air Force	Eli Stone "Happy Birthday Nate"	SportsCenter	
18:30						Fit For Duty			
19:00	Sesame Street Specials	America's Funniest Home Videos		Week-Pentagon	Medium "Soul Survivor"	Battleground	Lost "The Variable"	Horse Racing Kentucky Derby.	Sports
19:30	At the Movies			Army Newswatch	Recon Revisited	Recon Revisited	Recon Revisited	SportsCenter	
20:00	Digging for the Truth "The Search for El Dorado"	Smallville "Toxic"		Today	Life "5 Quarts"	Week-Pentagon	Dr. 90210 "Lovely Lady Bumps"		
20:30						National Guard News			
21:00	Explorer "Super Carrier"	90210 "Games People Play"		CBS News Sunday Morning	Headline News	Around the Services	Seinfeld "The Millennium"	Baseball Tonight	Sports
21:30					Saturday Night Live	Around the Services	Friends		
22:00	Anthony Bourdain: No Reservations "China"	Touched by an Angel "What Are Friends For?"				Around the Services	Dancing With the Stars	SportsCenter	Sports
22:30						Around the Services			
23:00	Dirty Jobs The profession of hot-tar roofing.	Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman "Ladies Night"		(35) MovieCold Mountain	Face the Nation				

MONDAY, MAY 4, 2009

00:00	Survivor: Tocantins	Planet Earth "Shallow Seas"	(11:35) Movie "Cold Mountain" (2003, Drama) Jude Law, Nicole Kidman, Renée Zellweger. A Confederate soldier tries to reach his sweetheart.	This Week With George Stephanopoulos	Comics Unleashed	Around the Services	Dancing With the Stars	(11:00) SportsCenter	(11:00) Sports
00:30				Meet the Press	Two and a Half Men	Fit For Duty	Dancing With the Stars		
1:00	Sports	America's Funniest Home Videos			NCIS The body of a missing lance corporal is found.	The Benning Report			
1:30						The Grill Sergeants	Grey's Anatomy "Time Has Come Today"	Baseball Tonight	
2:00		Smallville "Toxic"		America's News HQ	Bones "The Man Who Fell to Earth"	VA News	This Week in the Pentagon	NBA Basketball Teams to Be Announced.	
2:30						Week-Pentagon	Prison Break "Bolshoi Boozie"		
3:00				Newsroom	20/20	Army Newswatch			
3:30						Recon Revisited	NUMB3RS "Convergence"		
4:00				Your Money	Medium "Soul Survivor"	Battleground			
4:30						Today's Air Force	Friends		
5:00	Sports	Teletubbies	(10) Movie "Just Married" (2003) Ashton Kutcher. Two newlyweds have bad luck while honeymooning in Europe.	America's News HQ	Life "5 Quarts"	Recon	Kiana's Flex Appeal		
5:30		Barney & Friends				The American Veteran	Denise Austin's Getting Fit		
6:00		Sesame Street		Fareed Zakaria GPS	Good Morning America	USARJ This Week	Giada at Home		
6:30						The Grill Sergeants	Paula's Home Cooking		
7:00		Bear in the Big Blue House		Entertainers	FOX News Sunday With Chris Wallace	This Week With George Stephanopoulos	Cooking for Real	SportsCenter	
7:30		Blue's Clues				This Week in the Pentagon	Army Newswatch		
8:00	Sports	Dora the Explorer			Sesame Street	Living Fresh			
8:30		Handy Manny		FOX Report		Fit For Duty	The Morning Show With Mike & Juliet	Baseball Tonight	
9:00		Bob the Builder				Freedom Journal Iraq			
9:30		Hi-5	Movie "Love Thy Neighbor" (2005, Suspense) Alexandra Paul.	State of the Union With John King	The View	Freedom Journal Iraq	Mad About You	MLB Baseball Chicago White Sox at Texas Rangers. From Rangers Ballpark in Arlington, Texas. (Subject to Blackout) (Live)	Sports
10:00		Peep-Big World		Hannity	Freedom Journal Iraq	The Grill Sergeants	Living Single		
10:30		Curious George			Dr. Phil	Fit For Duty	Guiding Light		
11:00	Sports	Movie "Mulan" (1998, Musical) Voices of Ming-Na Wen, Lea Salonga, Eddie Murphy.	(45) Movie "Tears of the Sun" (2003, Action) Bruce Willis, Monica Bellucci, Cole Hauser. Navy SEALs protect Nigerian refugees from ruthless rebels.	Newsroom	Judge Alex	This Week in the Pentagon	E! News		
11:30					Everybody Loves Raymond	Fit For Duty	The Daily 10		
12:00	This Week	Dora the Explorer		Huckabee	Access Hollywood	Battleground	Star Trek "Amok Time"	SportsCenter	Sports
12:30				Judge Judy	Judge Judy	EXchange on Air			
13:00	Meet the Press	Blue's Clues	Movie "Wild Things" (1998, Suspense) Kevin Bacon, Matt Dillon, Neve Campbell.	Larry King Live	The Young and the Restless	Briefing Encore	Reba "Let's Get Physical"		
13:30		Bear in the Big Blue House			Downrange	Downrange	Girlfriends		
14:00	Wall Street Journal Report	Sesame Street		60 Minutes	General Hospital	FNG Useful benefits.	Emeril Live		
14:30	ESPN News					Recon			
15:00	Sesame Street	Funniest Home Videos		CNN Live	Days of our Lives	Fit For Duty	Designers' Challenge		
15:30		Planet's Funniest Animals				Battleground	The Soup		
16:00	The View			This Week in the Pentagon	Oprah Winfrey	Tour of Duty	Ax Men "The Final Haul"		
16:30		(3:50) PokéMon		CBS Up to the Minute		This Week in the Pentagon			
17:00	Dr. Phil	(:40) Zatch Bell			Wheel of Fortune	VA News	King of the Hill		
17:30		Entertainers			Joyopardy!	Downrange	That '70s Show "Ski Trip"		
18:00	Judge Alex	Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles			Wall Street Journal Report	EXchange on Air	Daily Show-Jon Stewart		
18:30		SpongeBob SquarePants			Around the Services	Army Newswatch	The Colbert Report		
19:00	Everybody Loves Raymond	Hannah Montana			Fox and Friends First	60 Minutes	Pushing Daisies "Frescorts"		
19:30	Access Hollywood	Movie "The Mexican" (2001) Brad Pitt, Julia Roberts. A mob lackey goes to Mexico to retrieve a priceless antique.				Briefing Encore			
20:00	Judge Judy	Suite Life of Zack & Cody				Fit For Duty			
20:30	The Young and the Restless	Smallville Lana is visited by the ghost of a child friend.				Battleground	Stargate Atlantis "Spoils of War"		
21:00	General Hospital	Everybody Hates Chris				Stargate Atlantis "Spoils of War"			
21:30		The Cosby Show			Today	Are You Smarter Than a 5th Grader?	Recon		
22:00	Days of our Lives	Degrassi: Next Generation				In Plain Sight "To Serge With Love"	This Week in the Pentagon		
22:30		Strange Days-Blake Holsey				The Grill Sergeants	Ghost Whisperer "Bloodline"		
23:00	Oprah Winfrey	Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman "Ladies Night" (Part 2 of 2)			America's Newsroom	Pacific Report	Seinfeld "The Muffin Tops"	Baseball Tonight	WWE SmackDown!
23:30						The Tonight Show With Jay Leno	Friends		



Military News
Sports
Weather

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Announcements

040



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Autos for Sale

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Announcements

040

Announcements

040

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Autos for Sale

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SCOREBOARD

Sports on AFN

Golf

Monday

AFN-Sports, 2 a.m.—NBA playoffs: Eastern Conference quarterfinal, Miami at Atlanta, Game 7.

AFN-Xtra, 2 a.m.—MLB: Cleveland at Detroit.

AFN-Atlantic, 3 a.m.—NHL playoffs: Western Conference semifinal, Anaheim at Detroit, Game 2.

AFN-Sports, 4:30 a.m.—NBA playoffs: Western Conference semifinal, Dallas at Denver, Game 1.

AFN-Xtra, 5 a.m.—MLB: Oakland at Seattle.

AFN-Atlantic, 6 a.m.—MLB: San Diego at L.A. Dodgers (joined in progress).

AFN-Xtra, 8 a.m.—Drag racing: NHRA O'Reilly Midwest Nationals.

AFN-Atlantic, 8:30 a.m.—NHL playoffs: Eastern Conference semifinal, Carolina at Boston, Game 2.

AFN-Sports, 9 a.m.—MLB: Chicago White Sox at Texas.

AFN-Xtra, 11 a.m.—Tennis: ATP Internazionali D'Italia, singles championship (ldd).

AFN-Sports, 3 p.m.—Golf: PGA Wachovia Championship, final round.

AFN-Xtra, 4 p.m.—MLB: Colorado at San Francisco (ldd).

AFN-Sports, 7:30 p.m.—NBA playoffs: Eastern Conference quarterfinal, Miami at Atlanta, Game 7 (ldd).

Tuesday

AFN-Sports, 2 a.m.—NBA playoffs: Western Conference semifinal, Dallas at Denver, Game 1 (ldd).

AFN-Sports, 8 a.m.—NBA playoffs: Eastern Conference semifinal, Orlando at Boston or Chicago at Orlando, Game 1.

AFN-Xtra, 8 a.m.—NHL playoffs: Eastern Conference semifinal, Pittsburgh at Washington, Game 2.

AFN-Sports, 10:30 a.m.—NBA playoffs: Western Conference semifinal, Houston at L.A. Lakers, Game 1.

AFN-Xtra, 11 a.m.—MLB: Arizona at L.A. Dodgers.

AFN-Sports, 4 p.m.—NBA playoffs: Eastern Conference semifinal, Orlando at Boston or Chicago at Orlando, Game 1 (ldd).

AFN-Sports, 8 p.m.—NBA playoffs: Western Conference semifinal, Houston at L.A. Lakers, Game 1 (ldd).

All times are Japan and Korea Standard; (ldd) indicates delayed broadcast. All listings are subject to change. Visit www.myafn.net for more information.

Pro soccer

MLS

Eastern Conference

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Toronto FC	3	2	2	11	10	9
Chicago	2	0	4	10	12	9
Kansas City	3	3	1	10	9	8
D.C. United	2	1	2	9	8	8
New England	2	1	2	8	5	9
New York	1	4	2	5	5	9
Columbus	0	2	4	4	7	11

Western Conference

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Chivas USA	5	1	1	16	10	3
Seattle FC	4	2	0	12	9	3
Real Salt Lake	3	2	0	9	12	6
Colorado	2	2	2	8	8	8
San Jose	1	3	2	5	7	11
Houston	1	2	2	5	4	5
Los Angeles	0	1	4	4	6	7
FC Dallas	1	4	1	4	6	12

Note: Three points for victory, one point for tie.

Saturday's games

Columbus at Toronto FC
FC Dallas at D.C. United
Seattle FC at Chicago
Real Salt Lake at Colorado
New York at Los Angeles
Chivas USA at San Jose

Sunday's game

Houston at New England

WPS

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Los Angeles	3	0	1	10	5	0
Chicago	2	0	2	8	6	1
Boston	2	2	0	6	6	7
FC Gold Pride	1	2	1	4	6	7
Washington	1	2	1	4	6	9
Sky Blue FC	0	1	2	1	2	3
Saint Louis	0	2	1	1	0	3

Note: Three points for victory, one point for tie.

Saturday's game

Los Angeles at Boston
Sunday's games

Saint Louis at Washington

Sky Blue FC at FC Gold Pride

Saturday, May 9

FC Gold Pride at Saint Louis

Golf

Quail Hollow Championship

PGA Tour
Friday
At Quail Hollow Club
Charlotte, N.C.
Purse: \$1.17 million
Yardage: 7,442; Par: 72

Second Round

Bubba Watson 71-65-136-8
Retief Goosen 68-68-136-8
Zach Johnson 67-67-137-7
George McNeill 69-68-137-7
Tiger Woods 65-67-137-7
Jim Furyk 71-66-137-7
Camilo Villegas 67-67-138-6
Phil Mickelson 67-71-138-6
Jason Dufner 68-70-138-6
Jeff Maggert 67-72-139-5
Steve Marino 70-69-139-5
Robert Karlsson 68-69-139-5
Davis Love III 69-69-139-5
Anthony Kim 69-70-139-5
Ted Purdy 68-71-139-5
Lucas Glover 73-67-140-4
Ross Fisher 69-71-140-4
Jeff Klauk 69-71-140-4
Charles Warren 69-71-140-4
Bill Haas 69-71-140-4
Bo Van Pelt 68-72-140-4
Hunter Mahan 70-69-140-4
Danny Lee 70-70-140-4
Brendon Todd 72-69-141-3
Tom Pernice, Jr. 69-72-141-3
Sean O'Hair 67-74-141-3
Robert Allenby 71-70-141-3
Tim Petrovic 69-72-141-3
Ian Poultier 71-70-141-3
Brendon de Jonge 72-69-141-3
Frederik Jacobson 71-70-141-3
Jeff Overton 70-71-141-3
Boo Weekley 71-70-141-3
Martin Kaymer 70-72-142-2
Jonathan Kaye 72-70-142-2
Rocco Mediate 72-70-142-2
Chad Campbell 71-71-142-2
Mathew Goggin 70-72-142-2
Ken Duke 71-71-142-2
Nick Watney 71-71-142-2
David Toms 73-69-142-2
Chris Stroud 72-71-143-1
Matt Bettencourt 74-69-143-1
Brad Faxon 69-74-143-1
Mark Calcavecchia 73-70-143-1
Trevor Immelman 74-69-143-1
Peter Tomasulo 70-73-143-1
Steve Wheatcroft 71-72-143-1
John Senden 71-72-143-1
Y.E. Yang 71-72-143-1
Kevin Sutherland 69-74-143-1
Steve Flesch 71-72-143-1
Joe Ogilvie 74-69-143-1
Shaun Michael 72-71-143-1
Brian Davis 70-73-143-1
David Mathis 70-73-143-1
Michael Allen 71-73-144-2
Rich Beem 74-70-144-2
Pat Perez 73-71-144-2
Parker McLachlin 73-71-144-2
John Huston 70-74-144-2
Gary Woodland 72-72-144-2
Bill Lunde 70-74-144-2
John Rollins 70-74-144-2
Martin Laird 74-70-144-2
Geoff Ogilvy 71-73-144-2
Steve Lowery 70-74-144-2
Will Mackenzie 72-72-144-2
Jonathan Byrd 74-70-144-2
Ben Curtis 73-71-144-2
Cameron Beckman 71-73-144-2

Third Round

Thomas Levet, France 64-67-71-202
Stuart Davis, England 72-65-67-204
Peter Lawrie, Ireland 68-66-71-205
Stephen Dodd, Wales 69-69-69-207
Fabrizio Zanotti, Paraguay 71-70-66-207
Thomas Bjorn, Denmark 70-67-71-208
Paul Broadhurst, England 70-69-70-209
Niclas Fasth, Sweden 69-65-69-209
Soren Hansen, Denmark 63-70-76-209
Joe Manuel Lara, Spain 65-73-71-209
Francesco Molinari, Italy 69-70-70-209
Charl Schwartzel, South Africa 67-73-69-209
Marcel Siem, Germany 67-70-72-209
Alejandro Canizares, Spain 67-69-74-210
Paul McGinley, Ireland 70-67-73-210
Jarmo Sandelin, Sweden 66-75-69-210

Deals

Friday's transactions

BASEBALL

Major League Baseball

MLB—Suspended OF Kevin Clark (Colorado) for 50 games for testing positive for a performance-enhancing substance.

American League

CHICAGO WHITE SOX—Assigned OF Jerry Owens outright to Charlotte (IL). Placed OF Brian Anderson the 15-day DL, retroactive to April 30. Purchased the contract of OF Scott Podsednik from Charlotte. Activated INF Jayson Nix from the 15-day DL.

CLEVELAND INDIANS

—Activated OF David Dellucci from the 15-day DL. Optioned LHP Rich Rundles to Columbus (IL). Designated INF Tony Graffanino for assignment. Recalled OF Matt LaPorta, INF Josh Barfield and INF Luis Vidal from Columbus (IL).

MINNESOTA TWINS

—Activated C Joe Mauer from the 15-day DL. Assigned RHP Juan Morillo outright to Rochester (IL).

OAKLAND ATHLETICS

—Placed 3B Eric Chavez on the 15-day DL. Recalled INF Gregorio Petri from Sacramento (PCL).

SEATTLE MARINERS

—Activated C Kenji Johjima from the 15-day DL. Designated C Jamie Burke for assignment. Recalled LHP Jason Vargas from Tacoma (PCL).

TEXAS RANGERS

—Placed OF Josh Hamilton on the 15-day DL, retroactive to April 27. Recalled C Max Ramirez from Oklahoma City (PCL).

TORONTO BLUE JAYS

—Purchased the contract of LHP Brett Cecil from Las Vegas (PCL). Recalled RHP Robert Ray and RHP Brian Wolfe from Las Vegas. Optioned LHP David Purcey, LHP Brian Burres and RHP Bryan Bullington to Las Vegas. Activated RHP Casey Janssen from the 15-day DL and optioned to Dunedin (FL).

BASKETBALL

Women's National Basketball Association—Signed G Kiesha Brown.

National Football League

BUFFALO BILLS

—Signed OT Joel Bell, OL Nick Hennessy, DE Gerald Washington, DL John Faletose, DL Ventrell Jenkins, DL David Lindquist, TE Travis McColl, LB Ashlee Palmer, DB Lydell Sergeant and Dan Urrego.

CINCINNATI BENGALS

—Signed WR Quan Cosby.

DENVER BRONCOS

—Named Lenny McGill assistant director of college scouting.

DETROIT LIONS

—Released DB Travis Fisher and QB Drew Henson. Signed WR Denard Bolden and WR Mike Hart.

GREEN BAY PACKERS

—Signed WR Patrick Williams, WR Jamarko Simmons, WR Kyle Heckerdorf, RB Tyrell Sutton, TE Carson Butz, TE Travis Dekker, LB Cyril Obiozor, G-C Evan Dietrich-Smith, DE Ronald Talley, C-T Andrew Hartline and WR JaRon Harris.

INDIANAPOLIS COLTS

—Signed DB Brandon Anderson, DB Brandon Harrison, DB Jacob Lacey, LB Ramon Hunter, LB Tyrell Sales, OG Cornelius Lewis, OG Tom Pestock, WR John Matthews, WR Brett McDermott, TE Colin Cloherty, NT Adrian Grady, DL Pat Kuntz, DT Tim Masthay, OT Brandon Barnes and OL Kyle Devan.

NEW YORK JETS

—Signed TE J'Nathan Bullock, P-T J. Conley, Andrew Davie, WR Britt Davis, S Keith Fitzhugh, DT Matt Kroul, OL Kyle Link, OT Ryan McKee, TE Rob Myers, C Michael Parenton, QB Chris Pizzotti, DE Zach Pochinko, FB Brannan Southerland, DL Ty Steinhauer, OT Tavita Thompson and DE Jamaal Westerman.

SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS

—Signed K Alex Romero.

National Hockey League

NASHVILLE PREDATORS

—Assigned D Jonathan Blum to Milwaukee (AHL).

SAN JOSE SHARKS

—Signed LW John McCarthy to a two-year contract.

COLLEGE

MUHLENBERG—Named Scott McClary men's basketball coach.

OAKLAND, MICH.

—Named Jason Perry men's assistant soccer coach.

OREGON

—Named Mark Helfrich offensive coordinator and quarterback coach.

WASHINGTON

—Announced it will eliminate men's and women's swimming as varsity sports.

WRIGHT STATE

—Named Bryan Davis men's soccer coach.

Auto racing

Lipton Tea 250

NASCAR Nationwide Series

Richmond International Raceway

Richmond, Va.

Lap length: .75 miles

(Start position in parentheses)

1. (3) Kyle Busch, Toyota, 250 laps, 143.6 rating, 195 points, \$41,970.

2. (7) Carl Edwards, Ford, 250, 131, 175, \$32,000.

3. (1) Matt Kenseth, Ford, 250, 115.4, 170, \$26,875.

4. (27) Brad Keselowski, Chevrolet, 250, 110.8, 160, \$26,768.

5. (8) Kevin Harvick, Chevrolet, 250, 101.9, 155, \$20,275.

6. (4) Joey Logano, Toyota, 250, 108.2, 150, \$18,075.

7. (5) Mark Martin, Chevrolet, 250, 107.8, 146, \$17,460.

8. (22) Michael McDowell, Toyota, 250, 85.5, 142, \$27,538.

9. (17) Jason Keller, Ford, 250, 91.7, 138, \$23,343.

10. (9) Jason Leffler, Toyota, 250, 98.6, 134, \$24,293.

11. (26) Steve Wallace, Chevrolet, 249, 78, 130, \$25,018.

12. (12) Erik Darnell, Ford, 249, 76.3, 127, \$22,895.

13. (13) Shelby Howard, Chevrolet, 249, 75, 124, \$16,650.

14. (34) David Green, Toyota, 249, 75, 122, \$22,668.

15. (36) Tony Raines, Chevrolet, 249, 71, 120, \$22,643.

16. (28) Burney Lamar, Toyota, 246, 71, 120, \$22,618.

17. (22) Clint Bowser, Dodge, 246, 71, 120, \$21,927.

18. (9) Casey Kahne, Dodge, 246, 71, 120, \$21,881.

19. (29) Kevin Harvick, Chevrolet, 246, 71, 120, \$21,968.

20. (16) Jeff Burton, Chevrolet, 246, 71, 120, \$21,892.

21. (47) Marcos Ambrose, Toyota, 246, 71, 120, \$21,841.

22. (46) David Ragan, Ford, 246, 71, 120, \$21,842.

23. (43) Reed Sorenson, Dodge, 246, 71, 120, \$21,836.

24. (87) Joe Nemecek, Toyota, 246, 71, 120, \$21,819.

25. (88) Dale Earnhardt Jr., Chevrolet, 246, 71, 120, \$21,803.

26. (66) Dave Blaney, Toyota, 246, 71, 120, \$21,788.

Sports briefs

Watson, Goosen share lead as Woods falters

The Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — The birdie putt that put Tiger Woods in control at the Quail Hollow Championship was 55 feet up the slope on the ninth green, trucking so fast toward the hole that it slammed into the back of the cup and went airborne before dropping.

"It would have been in the grandstands if it didn't hit the hole," he said.

The putt that dropped him out of the lead was just more than 5 feet, and crawled along like a snail.

That one came at the 15th hole, a blown opportunity for birdie, and Woods followed that with a tee shot into the trees for a bogey, and a three-putt bogey on the 18th hole from 90 feet that set the tone for the weekend at the Quail Hollow.

Fortunes can turn quickly.

It was just like any other tournament for Bubba Watson, a big hitter who draws attention for the pink shaft in his driver.

He fired four birdies and an eagle to match the tournament record with a 30 on the front nine, giving him a 7-under 65 and a share of the lead with two-time U.S. Open champion Retief Goosen.

They were at 8-under 136.

Former Masters champion Zach Johnson was the only player to reach 10-under par, but that didn't last long.

He bogeyed his last three holes for a 67 and was one shot behind, in the group with Woods (72), George McNeill (68) and Jim Furyk (66).

Armstrong goes with the flow in Silver City

SILVER CITY, N.M. — Lance Armstrong draws a crowd anywhere he goes, and Tour of the Gila organizers couldn't be happier about it.

Returning from a broken collarbone, Armstrong has provided a major publicity boost for the New Mexico race, in its 23rd year.

Armstrong, meanwhile, has enjoyed the event's laid-back, low-key feel.

"It's good for the first race back," he said. "To not have to handle the logistics and things like that, it makes it easier. The early stages make for long days. You get back home just past noon. Then you almost sit around and wonder what to do."

Armstrong placed third Friday in the Gila's third stage, a time trial that started and finished in the mining village of Tyrone.

He covered the hilly 16-mile course in 34 minutes, 22 seconds.

Armstrong's teammate, Levi Leipheimer, won in 31:32.59 and remained the Tour of the Gila's overall leader.

The Astana team riders are using the Gila race to prepare for next week's Giro d'Italia.

Childress: Vikings will probably talk about Favre

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. — Brett Favre says he's retired,



GERRY BROOME/AP

South Africa's Retief Goosen lines up a putt on the ninth green Friday during the second round of the Quail Hollow Championship at the Quail Hollow Club in Charlotte, N.C. Goosen is tied for the lead.

but Minnesota coach Brad Childress acknowledges it's likely the Vikings will at least assess their interest in the record-setting quarterback later in the offseason.

Childress declined on Friday to directly answer a question about whether he plans to speak to Favre soon.

The coach said he has been too busy with the NFL Draft and the team's rookie minicamp.

Favre asked for and received his release from the Jets earlier this week.

The 39-year-old Favre left his future open with the disclaimer "at this time" in a statement affirming his retirement.

2 Marshall players arrested on drug charges

BARBOURSVILLE, W.Va. — Two Marshall University football players have been suspended after being arrested on drug charges in western West Virginia.

Tailback Darius Marshall and defensive back DeQuan Bembry, also known as DeQuan Starling, were arrested early Saturday in Cabell County and charged with possession with intent to deliver. An officer at Western Regional Jail said they both were being held there on \$20,000 bond.

The officer did not know if the players had an attorney.

Last season as a sophomore, Marshall ran for 1,177 yards and scored five touchdowns. Bembry had 80 tackles, including 7.5 for

loss, and intercepted a pass as a redshirt freshman.

Rachel Alexandra romps in Kentucky Oaks

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Maybe the boys got lucky.

Rachel Alexandra rolled to victory in the \$500,000 Kentucky Oaks on Friday, crushing the field by 20½ lengths and perhaps stamping herself as the best 3-year-old horse in the country, male or female.

With jockey Calvin Borel up, Rachel Alexandra stalked Gabby's Golden Gal along the backstretch then easily moved to the front with little urging from Borel. She poured it on in the stretch, widening the gap as 100,000 spectators roared with every stride of her eye-popping victory in the filly version of the Kentucky Derby.

Borel blew a kiss and tapped her on the neck as they crossed the finish line for her fifth straight victory, all by convincing margins.

Stone Legacy was second, with Flying Spur third.

Vikings rookie Harvin hospitalized for dehydration

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. — Minnesota Vikings first-round draft pick Percy Harvin has been hospitalized due to severe dehydration.

According to coach Brad Childress, the wide receiver was feeling ill Thursday and vomited on

a flight from Florida to Atlanta. Instead of continuing to the Twin Cities to take part in the team's rookie minicamp this weekend, Harvin was taken to a hospital.

Swine flu was ruled out, but high alert for the virus had paramedics hustling to treat him once the plane landed.

After a rigorous travel schedule around the country in the weeks leading to the NFL Draft and a hard workout on Wednesday, Harvin began to feel sick.

Doctors weren't satisfied enough with Harvin's condition Friday to release him, so he was expected to remain in the hospital for another day or two.

Harvin was picked by the Vikings in the first round with the 22nd overall selection last weekend.

Rangers put Hamilton on 15-day disabled list

ARLINGTON, Texas — The Texas Rangers placed outfielder Josh Hamilton on the 15-day disabled list before Friday night's game against the Chicago White Sox because of a strained left rib cage muscle.

The Rangers made the move retroactive to Monday in part to create a roster spot for catcher Max Ramirez, recalled from Triple-A Oklahoma on Friday to serve as the backup while regular catcher Jarrod Saltalamacchia recovers from eye irritation.

Marlon Byrd will remain Texas' primary center fielder in Hamilton's absence.

Hamilton sustained the injury on April 12 in Toronto when he crashed into the outfield wall while chasing a fly ball.

He started a game in Baltimore on Saturday, pinch-hit on Sunday, but was unavailable for two games against Oakland on Tuesday and Thursday.

Unbeaten Mayweather Jr. set to end retirement

LAS VEGAS — Floyd Mayweather Jr. is back, ending his brief retirement from boxing.

The undefeated five-division champion planned to announce Saturday his return to the sport with a July fight against lightweight champion Juan Manuel Marquez, a person close to the fight confirmed Friday night.

The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the fight hadn't been announced.

Mayweather last fought when he stopped Ricky Hatton in the 10th round of their December 2007 fight.

Levet up 2 in Spanish Open

GIRONA, Spain — Thomas Levet shot a 1 under par 71 on Saturday to hold a two-shot lead going into the final round at the Spanish Open.

The Frenchman leads England's Stuart Davis after improving his three-day total to 14 under 202 at the PGA Golf de Catalunya course.

Davis, a 35-year-old rookie on the European Tour, fired a 6 under 67 to sit second at 12 under, while defending champion Peter

Lawrie (71) was three shots back of Levet.

Texas Tech star QB Harrell has tryout with Browns

BEREA, Ohio — Former Texas Tech star quarterback Graham Harrell has a lot to prove in three days.

Harrell was invited to the Cleveland Browns rookie minicamp on a three-day tryout. He wasn't offered a contract, so nothing is guaranteed beyond Sunday.

He has to prove his arm is strong enough for the NFL. And he has to prove he can pick up the Browns' complex offense overnight.

Harrell wasn't taken last weekend in the seven rounds of the NFL Draft, despite owning the NCAA record with 134 career touchdown passes and holding the second spot with 15,793 career yards.

As a senior, he threw 45 touchdown passes, completed 71 percent of his passes and finished fourth in the Heisman Trophy voting.

Cooper to become USC women's basketball coach

LOS ANGELES — Michael Cooper will leave the Los Angeles Sparks after this season to coach Southern California's women's basketball team, athletic director Mike Garrett said Friday.

Newly hired assistant Ervin Monier will oversee USC's program until Cooper arrives.

The Sparks begin play on June 6 and could play until Oct. 9 if they make the WNBA finals.

He replaces Mark Trakh, who resigned last month after five seasons.

Red Wings' Rafalski out for Game 2 against Ducks

DETROIT — Red Wings coach Mike Babcock says Brian Rafalski will not play in Game 2 against the Anaheim Ducks.

Babcock ruled Rafalski out with an upper-body injury on Saturday, a day after he missed Detroit's 3-2 victory in Game 1.

The Red Wings plan to replace Rafalski with 47-year-old Chris Chelios as they did in the opener of the Western Conference semifinal.

Anaheim's Brown avoids suspension after bloody hit

DETROIT — Mike Brown will be back for the Anaheim Ducks in Game 2 of their Western Conference semifinal.

The Detroit Red Wings were told Saturday that Brown would not be suspended for his hit that bloodied Jiri Hudler.

Brown landed a blow to Hudler's head in the first period of Game 1 on Friday night. He was given a major penalty for interference, leading to Detroit scoring a tying goal, and a game misconduct that ended his night.

The game was delayed briefly while Hudler was helped off the ice and blood was scraped off it. A towel was pressed against a big cut above Hudler's left eye.

High school roundup

Falcons win DODDS-Korea baseball, softball crowns

Stars and Stripes

YONGSAN GARRISON, South Korea — Seoul American's baseball and girls softball teams' motto could very easily read: "Champions of today and built to last."

On Saturday, each team seized the regular-season championship in their respective DODDS-Korea leagues, sweeping their games against Osan and Daegu American at the Lombardo Field FourPlex on Yongsan's South Post.

"We're fortunate. We're a young team, and the girls did a really good job of stepping up and playing well," coach Julian Harden said after his Falcons beat Osan 13-0 in four innings and Daegu 16-1 in three.

Seoul American improved to 8-0, six games ahead of Osan (2-6) and Daegu (2-6) with just two weekends left in the season.

His squad of 15 players includes nine freshmen, and Harden admits that after losing so many seniors from last year, a third straight DODDS-Korea title wasn't expected. "I didn't see this coming," he said.

Only one senior, Jina Kim, departs after this season; the freshmen group, including Ashton Wiggins and Hannah Swafford, will be back next year and beyond.

"We have a good nucleus, some good leadership," Harden said. "These girls are hungry. They have a thirst for knowledge and the ways of the game. We're pleased with how they've played."

Harden's fifth title in six years will also be his last; he intends to step down as Seoul American's football, wrestling and softball coach.

"I'm looking forward to sitting in the stands and cheering," he said.

Likewise, the Falcons baseball team is armed, literally, with what coach Bob Heckerl calls a seven-man pitching staff, which has paced Seoul American to a 7-1 mark, four games ahead of Daegu (3-5) with two weekends left. The Falcons won their first title since 2005 by virtue of an insurmountable head-to-head advantage over Osan and Daegu.

Freshman Casey Donovan and sophomore Colton Heckerl pitched the Falcons past Daegu 15-0 in five innings and Osan 12-0 in five, but the elder Heckerl says he has three others, including sophomores Jake Kail and Greg Morris, who "are interchangeable on any given day."

And all except Kail will be at Seoul American until they graduate. Coupled with solid hitting, Heckerl said it's possible the Falcons can be a power for years to come.

"The one place where we haven't been tested is our defense, because of our pitching," Heckerl



GARY CASHMAN/Special to Stars and Stripes

Seoul American's Casey Donovan gets set to tag Osan American's Jason Chappell during Saturday's DODDS-Korea Baseball League game at South Post, Yongsan Garrison, South Korea. Seoul American won 12-0 and captured its first DODDS-Korea title since 2005.

said. "The ball's being put in play maybe only four or five times a game."

That could present a problem for the Falcons, who travel to Camp Zama, Japan, for the Kanto Plain Invitational Tournament May 15-16.

"When we get to Japan, it's going to be quite different. Our defense can't fall into a sense of complacency based on what we've experienced in Korea. It will be a whole different ball-game," Heckerl said.

Perry boys coming alive

MISAWA AIR BASE, Japan — They've lived all season in the shadow of a girls team that holds a school-best 16-6-1 record. But just in the last couple of weeks, Matthew C. Perry's boys have displayed signs of life.

Andre Bugawan scored three goals and Sean Barker two as the Samurais swept a DODDS-Japan weekend series at Robert D. Edgren 3-2 on Friday and 3-0 on Saturday. Perry (8-15-3) has won three of its past four.

"Nice little streak," coach Mark Lange said. "We've been steady all season, we kept it going and going and I knew at some point it would turn around."

Lange made a lineup adjustment, going with a fifth midfielder to stop opposing runs at the net before they start. "That's made a difference," Lange said. "We were getting eaten up at midfielder. The extra mid is paying off."

Perry's girls also swept Edgren 3-1 and 2-0, with Karla Stroud notching her 36th and 37th goals.

Zama American (17-3-3) continued its school-best season by sweeping Edgren 6-0 and 5-0. Aubrey Ashliman scored three goals in each match and tied Stroud for the Pacific girls goal-scoring lead.

Zama's boys (11-5-2) rebounded from a shutout loss to Christian

High school scoreboard

Okinawa

Baseball
Saturday's summary
Kyuyo 18, Kadena 3 (9)
At Chibana Recreation Area
Kyuyo 231 362 100-18 17 1
Kadena 000 003 000- 3 4 10
L-Ryan Yerger, 4 IP, 9 H, 9 R, 7 ER, 4 SO, 4 WP, 4 HBP. **Battting**-Kadena, Ryan Yerger 2-for-3, RBI.

Girls soccer
Saturday's summary
Kubasaki 2, Naha West 0
At Camp Foster
Halftime-0-0
Goals-Kubasaki, Elizabeth Fabila 1 (21), Maya Lowe 1 (4). Assists-Kubasaki, Maya Lowe 1, Noel Arsenault 1.

Japan
Boys soccer
Saturday's summaries
Matthew C. Perry 3, Robert D. Edgren 0
At Misawa Air Base
Halftime-3-0
Goals-M.C. Perry, Sean Barker 13, Andrew Bugawan 1 (12), Nick Bischoff 1 (1).

Zama American 4, Robert D. Edgren 2
At Misawa Air Base
Halftime-2-2
Goals-Zama, Adonis Jackson 2 (8), Spencer Clark 1 (13), Malachi Cruz 1 (1); Edgren, Matt Linder 1 (6), Ray Keiser 1 (1). Assists-Zama, Spencer Clark 2, Steve Burritica 1, Shane Leon Guerrero 1.

Girls soccer
Saturday's summaries
Matthew C. Perry 2, Robert D. Edgren 0
At Misawa Air Base
Halftime-0-0
Goals-M.C. Perry, Karla Stroud 1 (37), Kristen Leikwold 1 (5). Assists-M.C. Perry, Danielle Dobson 1 (17).

Zama American 5, Robert D. Edgren 0
At Misawa Air Base
Halftime-5-0
Goals-Zama, Aubrey Ashliman 3 (37), Mallaria Ashliman 1 (32), Katie Scully 1 (1). Assists-Zama, Deanne Polaski 2, Christie Jimenez 1, Kristen Dulay 1.

Baseball
Thursday's summaries
At Fuchi Civic Stadium, Tokyo
Nile C. Kinnick 11, American School In Japan 6
Kinnick 005 110 0-11 13 2
ASU 300 200 1 - 6 6 7
W-Eddy Davis, 7 IP, 11 SO.
American School In Japan 11, Nile C. Kinnick 0 (5)

Guam
Boys volleyball
Saturday's summary
Guam High def. Southern 25-20, 25-21 At Agana Heights

Spike kills-Guam High, Mikel Nelson 12, Derrell Brunner 5. Set assists-Guam High, John Martinez 15. Defensive digs-Guam High, Justin Samonte 8.



DAVE ORNAUER/Stars and Stripes

Kadena pitcher Ryan "Yogi" Yerger delivers against Kyuyo on Saturday at Chibana Recreation Area, Okinawa. Yerger took the loss as Kyuyo won 18-3.

South Korea

DODDS-Korea Baseball League

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Seoul American	7	1	.875	
Daegu American	3	5	.375	4
Osan American	2	6	.250	5

Saturday's summary
Seoul American 12, Osan American 0 (5)
At Yongsan Garrison

Osan 000 00-0
Seoul 253 2x-12

W-Colton Heckerl, 5 IP, 2 H, 0 ER, 8 SO. L-Will Rapoza. **Battting**-Seoul, Ivan Montanez 3 RBI, Colton Heckerl 2 RBI, Alex Rinchart 2 RBIs. **Noteeworthy**-In weekend tri-meet with Osan and Daegu American, Seoul American outscored its opponents 27-0.

Friday's summary
Seoul American 15, Daegu American 0 (5)
At Yongsan Garrison

Daegu 000 00-0
Seoul 324 42x-15

W-Casey Donovan, 2 H, 0 ER, 12 SO. L-Nic Dunsmore. **Battting**-Seoul, Colton Heckerl 2-for-4, 4 RBI; Keegan Gibson 2-run HR; Ivan Montanez 2 RBIs.

DODDS-Korea Girls Softball League

	W	L	Pct.	GB
x-Seoul American	8	0	1.000	
Osan American	2	6	.250	6
Daegu American	2	6	.250	6

Girls Softball League title

Saturday's summaries

Seoul American 16, Daegu American 1 (3)
At Yongsan Garrison

Daegu 100-1
Seoul 324 42x-16

W-Jina Kim, 3 IP, H, 0 ER, 3 BB, 7 SO. **Battting**-Seoul, Jina Kim 2-for-3, 2 R, 4 RBI (grand slam); Hannah Swafford 2-for-3, 2 R, RBI (HR); Liz Golden 1 HR.

Seoul American 13, Osan American 0 (4)
At Yongsan Garrison

Osan 000 0-0
Seoul 517 x-13

W-Katie Darby, 4 IP, H, 0 ER, 2 BB, 7 SO. **Battting**-Seoul, Ashton Wiggins 1-for-2, third-inning HR, 2 R, 2 RBI; Hannah Swafford 1-for-3, 2 R, 2 RBI.

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PABLO MARTINEZ MONSIVAIS/AP

Capitals goalie Simeon Varlamov reaches with his stick at the last second to stop a shot by Penguins center Sidney Crosby, far left, during Saturday's Game 1 of their playoff series. Crosby momentarily raised his arms in anticipation of a goal.

NHL playoffs roundup

Caps' supporting cast takes bows in opener

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In a series featuring several of the NHL's most notable stars, a couple of role players and a rookie goaltender made the difference for the Washington Capitals in Game 1 of their showdown against the Pittsburgh Penguins.

Tomas Fleischmann scored the tiebreaking goal with 18:14 remaining, Simeon Varlamov stopped 34 shots, and the Caps got the jump on their Eastern Conference rivals with a 3-2 victory Saturday.

Yes, Alex Ovechkin and Sidney Crosby scored, Alexander Semin had two assists and Evgeni Malkin set up a goal.

Just as significant, unheralded David Steckel scored his first goal of the playoffs to help Washington earn its first four-game winning streak in the playoffs since 1991.

"You need secondary scoring in the playoffs, and it was our time to step up and help the guys out and get some points," Steckel said. "You're not going to win games with only your first and second line because obviously the defense is going to be keying on them."

Washington opened the playoffs by losing twice to the New York Rangers and had to rally from a

3-1 deficit to advance. The Caps had no desire to have to do the same thing against Pittsburgh.

"This team is better," Capitals coach Bruce Boudreau said of the Penguins. "No disrespect to New York, but we'd have no chance being down 2-0 to be able to duplicate it."

Game 2 is Monday night in Washington.

Mark Eaton also scored for the defending Eastern Conference champion Penguins, who went 0-for-5 on the power play after going 1-for-18 in the final four games of their first-round series against Philadelphia.

"We need to do a better job on the power play," Crosby said. "We'll go over it and make sure we fix those things."

The Penguins and Capitals have met seven times previously in the playoffs, and Pittsburgh has won six of those series. Seventeen of the 43 playoff games between the teams have been decided by one goal, including this thriller.

With the score tied 2-2 late in the second period, Varlamov twisted his body and stretched his stick across the goal line to deny Crosby, who had taken a shot from the left of the crease after receiving a cross-ice pass from Chris Kunitz. Crosby lifted his arms momentarily to celebrate

before realizing the goaltender managed to keep the puck out of the net.

"I was out of position, there was really nothing I could do, so I lunged with the stick, and it just so happened the puck hit it right on the line," Varlamov said.

"It was kind of a desperation save," Crosby said. "You don't want to waste those opportunities."

In Friday night games:

Red Wings 3, Ducks 2: At Detroit, Nicklas Lidstrom scored his second goal of the game with 49.1 seconds left to lift the Red Wings over the Anaheim Ducks in Game 1 of the Western Conference semifinals.

Lidstrom scored a go-ahead goal for the defending Stanley Cup champions in the second period after teammate and fellow Swede Johan Franzen had tied it in the first following their first deficit of the playoffs. Lidstrom earned an assist on Franzen's goal.

Bruins 4, Hurricanes 1: At Boston, Marc Savard scored twice and Tim Thomas stopped 26 shots to lead the Bruins past Carolina in the opener of the Eastern Conference semifinals.

Michael Ryder scored for the fourth game in a row, and David Krejci also scored for the top-seeded Bruins.

NHL scoreboard

Playoffs

FIRST ROUND (Best-of-seven)

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Boston 4, Montreal 0

Boston 4, Montreal 2
Boston 5, Montreal 1
Boston 4, Montreal 2
Boston 4, Montreal 1
Washington 4, N.Y. Rangers 3

N.Y. Rangers 4, Washington 3
N.Y. Rangers 1, Washington 0
Washington 4, N.Y. Rangers 0
N.Y. Rangers 2, Washington 1
Washington 4, N.Y. Rangers 0
Washington 5, N.Y. Rangers 3
Washington 2, N.Y. Rangers 1

Carolina 4, New Jersey 3

New Jersey 4, Carolina 1
Carolina 2, New Jersey 1, OT
New Jersey 3, Carolina 0, OT
Carolina 4, New Jersey 3
New Jersey 0, Carolina 0
Carolina 4, New Jersey 0
Carolina 4, New Jersey 3

Pittsburgh 4, Philadelphia 2

Pittsburgh 4, Philadelphia 1
Pittsburgh 3, Philadelphia 2, OT
Philadelphia 4, Pittsburgh 3
Pittsburgh 3, Philadelphia 1
Philadelphia 3, Pittsburgh 0
Pittsburgh 5, Philadelphia 3

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Anaheim 4, San Jose 2

Anaheim 2, San Jose 0
Anaheim 3, San Jose 2
San Jose 4, Anaheim 3
Anaheim 4, San Jose 0
San Jose 3, Anaheim 2, OT
Anaheim 4, San Jose 1

Detroit 4, Columbus 0

Detroit 4, Columbus 1
Detroit 4, Columbus 0
Detroit 4, Columbus 1
Detroit 6, Columbus 5

Vancouver 4, St. Louis 0

Vancouver 2, St. Louis 1
Vancouver 3, St. Louis 0
Vancouver 3, St. Louis 2
Vancouver 3, St. Louis 2, OT

Chicago 4, Calgary 2

Chicago 3, Calgary 2, OT
Chicago 3, Calgary 2
Calgary 4, Chicago 2
Calgary 6, Chicago 4
Chicago 5, Calgary 1
Chicago 4, Calgary 1

CONFERENCE SEMIFINALS

(Best-of-seven)

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Boston vs. Carolina
Friday: Boston 4, Carolina 1, Boston leads series 1-0

Sunday: Carolina at Boston

Wednesday: Boston at Carolina

Friday, May 8: Boston at Carolina

Sunday, May 10: Carolina at Boston*

Tuesday, May 12: Boston at Carolina*

Thursday, May 14: Carolina at Boston*

Washington vs. Pittsburgh

Saturday: Washington 3, Pittsburgh 2, Washington leads series 1-0

Monday: Pittsburgh at Washington

Wednesday: Washington at Pittsburgh

Friday, May 8: Washington at Pittsburgh

Saturday, May 9: Pittsburgh at Wash-

ington*

Monday, May 11: Washington at Pittsburgh*

Wednesday, May 13: Pittsburgh at Washington*

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Detroit vs. Anaheim

Friday: Detroit 3, Anaheim 2, Detroit leads series 1-0

Sunday: Anaheim at Detroit

Tuesday: Detroit at Anaheim

Sunday, May 10: Anaheim at Detroit, 5 p.m.*

Tuesday, May 12: Detroit at Anaheim

Thursday, May 14: Anaheim at Detroit*

Vancouver vs. Chicago

Thursday: Vancouver 5, Chicago 3, Vancouver leads series 1-0

Saturday: Chicago at Vancouver

Tuesday: Vancouver at Chicago

Thursday, May 7: Vancouver at Chicago

Saturday, May 9: Chicago at Vancouver

Monday, May 11: Vancouver at Chicago

Thursday, May 14: Chicago at Vancouver

* if necessary

Friday

Red Wings 3, Ducks 2

Anaheim 1, 0-2
Detroit 1, 1-3

First Period—1, Anaheim, Perry 4 (Getzlaf, Pronger), 7:28. 2, Detroit, Franzén 3 (Lidstrom, Osgood), 12:33 (pp).

Second Period—3, Detroit, Lidstrom 2 (Stuart, Datsyuk), 14:24 (pp). 4, Anaheim, Selanne 2 (Getzlaf, Pronger), 19:43 (pp).

Third Period—5, Detroit, Lidstrom 3 (Clearay, Zetterberg), 19:10.

Shots on Goal—Anaheim 8-9-7-24.

Detroit 9-10-18-37.

Power-play opportunities—Anaheim 1 of 3; Detroit 2 of 6.

Goals—Anaheim, Hiller 4-3-0 (37 shots-34 saves). Detroit, Osgood 5-0-0 (24-22).

A—20,066 (20,066). T—2:29.

Bruins 4, Hurricanes 1

Carolina 1, 0-1
Boston 1, 2-1-4

First Period—1, Boston, Krejci 3 (A.Ward, Rymer), 1:34. 2, Carolina, Jokinen 4 (Bayda, Pitkänen), 18:50.

Second Period—3, Boston, Savard 3 (Kessel, Lucic), 7:21. 4, Boston, Ryder 5, 12:41.

Third Period—5, Boston, Savard 4 (Kessel), 7:21.

Shots on Goal—Carolina 10-10-7-27.

Boston 8-9-7-24.

Power-play opportunities—Carolina 0 of 1; Boston 0 of 3.

Goals—Carolina, C.Ward 4-4-0 (24 shots-20 saves). Boston, Thomas 5-0-0 (27-26).

A—17,565 (17,565). T—2:18.

AL roundup

Angels batter Sabathia, top Yanks

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Matt Palmer outpitched CC Sabathia for his second major league victory as the Los Angeles Angels broke open a tight game in the late innings to beat the New York Yankees 8-4 on Saturday.

Kendry Morales homered and drove in two runs, and Torii Hunter chased Sabathia with a two-run double during a four-run seventh as the Angels ended New York's four-game winning streak.

Palmer (2-0) pitched three-hit ball for $6\frac{1}{3}$ innings before Los Angeles' struggling bullpen closed it out. The right-hander, filling in for an Angels rotation decimated by injuries, retired 14 straight batters between Hideki Matsui's RBI single in the first and Derek Jeter's leadoff double in the sixth.

It was another disappointing outing for Sabathia (1-3), the free-agent prize who signed a \$161 million, seven-year contract in the offseason. The big lefty is winless in his past four starts since beating Kansas City on April 11.

Palmer, 30, spent seven seasons in the minors before making his big league debut with San Francisco last season. Although not overpowering, he held the Yankees to one run after they totaled 36 during the winning streak.

Palmer had an 11.74 ERA in two Triple-A starts this year before beating Detroit 10-5 in his Angels debut April 23.

The bottom two batters in Los Angeles' lineup, Brandon Wood and injury sub Maicer Izturis, singled to start the seventh.

Two outs later, Howie Kendrick snapped a 1-all tie when he grounded an RBI infield single up the middle. Hunter followed with a two-run double off the left-field fence on Sabathia's 119th pitch, and Mike Napoli's first-pitch single off Jonathan Albaladejo made it 5-1.

In Friday games:

Yankees 10, Angels 9: Brian Fuentes surrendered a walk and three straight singles in the ninth inning, the last the game-winner by Jorge Posada to complete New



JULIE JACONSON/AP

New York's Mark Teixeira, right, celebrates with Melky Cabrera after scoring on a game-winning, two-run single by Jorge Posada in the ninth inning Friday night.

York's comeback. Los Angeles wasted a five-run, eighth-inning lead.

New York took a 4-0 lead in the first inning on Jorge Posada's two-run homer, but Andy Pettitte couldn't hold it as the Angels scored six runs in the sixth and three in the seventh.

Melky Cabrera's RBI single, Ramiro Pena's two-run single and Derek Jeter's RBI grounder off Jose Arredondo cut the deficit to 9-8 in the eighth. Then in the ninth, Fuentes (0-2) walked slumping Mark Teixeira on a 3-2 pitch leading off, and Hideki Matsui and Robinson Cano singled to load the bases with no outs.

Posada got ahead 2-0 in the count, then singled to left-center on a 3-2 pitch.

White Sox 4, Rangers 3: Jim Thome hit a tying three-run double, and Chris

Getz added the go-ahead triple for visiting Chicago.

Mark Buehrle (4-0) allowed three runs in six innings to improve to 11-3 against the Rangers. Bobby Jenks pitched the ninth for his sixth save.

Ian Kinsler hit a leadoff homer, and Michael Young had three hits for Texas.

Rays 6, Red Sox 2: Evan Longoria extended his torrid hitting against Boston pitching with a grand slam and Carlos Pena also homered for host Tampa Bay.

Andy Sonnanstine (1-3) allowed two runs and eight hits in $5\frac{2}{3}$ innings to get his first regular-season victory since Aug. 18 for the defending AL champions, who improved to 4-1 against Boston.

Longoria homered and drove in four runs for the second straight night, con-

nected off Justin Masterson (2-1) during Tampa Bay's six-run fifth inning.

Blue Jays 8, Orioles 4: Roy Halladay won his ninth straight decision against visiting Baltimore and Kevin Millar drove in three runs against his former team.

Halladay (5-1) improved to 9-0 with a 2.71 ERA in his past 11 starts against the Orioles, and is 19-4 in 29 career games against them. He gave up four runs and 10 hits in eight innings.

Orioles left-hander Mark Hendrickson (1-4) lost his fourth straight start.

Indians 6, Tigers 5: Carl Pavano pitched $7\frac{1}{3}$ innings and Cleveland held off host Detroit.

Pavano (1-3), who made his longest outing since a shutout over Seattle on May 17, 2005, left with Cleveland leading 6-1 in the eighth inning.

Kerry Wood pitched a scoreless ninth for his fifth save.

Armando Galarraga (3-1) lasted just five innings.

Twins 7, Royals 5: At Minneapolis, Joe Mauer homered in the first at-bat of his delayed season debut and scored three times, and Justin Morneau's go-ahead two-run shot sent the Twins to the victory.

David DeJesus drove in three runs for the Royals, and Jose Guillen made Kevin Slowey (4-0) sweat his perfect record with a two-run single that tied it 5-5 in the fifth inning.

Joe Nathan notched his fourth save in the ninth.

Mariners 8, Athletics 7: Jose Lopez hit an RBI single to right field on the 14th pitch from Russ Springer with two outs in the ninth, capping host Seattle's rally from a 6-1 deficit.

It was Lopez's fourth career game-winning hit, and he had to work a little extra for this one. After going to a 2-2 count against Springer (0-1), Lopez fouled off nine consecutive pitches. With the crowd and his entire dugout standing, Lopez lined the final pitch, a fastball, into right-center field to score Chavez.

Hill ties it in 10th, wins it in 11th for Blue Jays

The Associated Press

TORONTO — Aaron Hill hit an RBI single in the 11th inning to give the Toronto Blue Jays a 5-4 victory over the Baltimore Orioles on Saturday.

Rod Barajas led off the 11th with a base hit off Brian Bass (0-1). After Travis Snider popped up a bunt attempt to the mound, Barajas took second on Marco Scutaro's sacrifice and scored on Hill's single to right-center.

Jason Frasor (4-0) pitched one scoreless inning for the victory.

It was a wild final two innings for Hill, who homered in the 10th after his error in the top half helped the Orioles take a 4-3 lead.

Nick Markakis went 0-for-4 with a pair of walks for Baltimore, ending his hitting streak at 17 games. The Orioles have lost five straight.

Adam Jones hit his third homer, into the second deck in left in the first, but Toronto scored three times in the second. Adam Lind drove in a run with a groundout and Raul Chavez and Scutaro

each had RBI singles to make it 3-1.

Aubrey Huff tied it with a two-out, two-run double in the third.

Robert Ray allowed three runs and four hits over $5\frac{2}{3}$ innings for Toronto in his major league debut. He walked four and struck out two.

Baltimore right-hander Brad Bergesen, who made his third career start, allowed three runs and six hits in six innings.

The Orioles took the lead in the 10th against Scott Downs. Markakis reached on Hill's error, moved

to second on Huff's single and took third on Melvin Mora's fly-out. Markakis scampered home on pinch-hitter Ty Wigginton's grounder to shortstop, sliding in ahead of the throw from Scutaro.

Hill made amends in the bottom half of the inning, tying it with a leadoff drive off George Sherrill. It was Hill's sixth homer and Sherrill's second blown save.

Baltimore put runners at first and second in the fourth but left fielder Travis Snider made a sliding catch on Brian Roberts' shallow pop to end the threat.

Snider turned the Orioles away again in the seventh, making a running catch on Markakis' drive to left-center to leave Cesar Izturis stranded at third.

Notes: Roberts played in his 1,000th career game, all with the Orioles. He's the 15th Baltimore player to reach the mark.

... Toronto LHP Ricky Romero, on the 15-day disabled list with a strained muscle in his right side, threw a bullpen session before the game and reported no pain. Romero was to throw another bullpen session on Monday.

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RESEARCH

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MLB scoreboard

American League

East Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Toronto	17	9	.654	—
Boston	14	9	.609	1½
New York	13	11	.542	3
Tampa Bay	10	14	.417	6
Baltimore	9	15	.375	7

Central Division

Chicago	12	10	.545	—
Kansas City	12	11	.522	½
Minnesota	12	11	.522	½
Detroit	11	11	.500	1
Cleveland	9	14	.391	3½

West Division

Seattle	14	9	.609	—
Texas	10	12	.455	3½
Los Angeles	10	13	.435	4
Oakland	8	12	.400	4½

Friday's games

Cleveland	6	Detroit	5
N.Y. Yankees	10	L.A. Angels	9
Toronto	8	Baltimore	4
Tampa Bay	6	Boston	2
Chicago	White Sox	4	Texas

Saturday's games

L.A. Angels	8	N.Y. Yankees	4
Toronto	5	Baltimore	4
Cleveland	at Detroit		
Kansas City	at Minnesota		
Chicago	White Sox	at Texas	

Sunday's games

L.A. Angels	(Saunders 3-1)	at N.Y. Yankees	
Hughes (Hughes 1-0)			
Cleveland (Lee 1-3)	at Detroit	(Ver-	
Baltimore (Guthrie 2-1)	at Toronto	lander 1-2)	
(Richmond 3-0)			
Boston (Penny 2-0)	at Tampa Bay		
(Shields 2-2)			
Kansas City (Meche 1-2)	at Minnesota		
(Baker 0-3)			
Oakland (Outman 0-0)	at Seattle		
Jakubauskas 1-3)			
Chicago White Sox (Danks 2-1)	at Tex-	as (Harrison 1-2)	

Monday's games

Boston	at N.Y. Yankees		
Mинnesota	at Detroit		
Cleveland	at Toronto		
Baltimore	at Tampa Bay		
Chicago	White Sox at Kansas City		
L.A. Angels	at Oakland		
Texas	at Seattle		

Friday

Yankees	10	Angels	9
Los Angeles		New York	
ab	r	h	bi
Figgins 3b	3	1	0
Mthews Jrf	4	1	3
Abreu If	3	1	0
JRiver If	0	0	0
Hunter cf	4	1	1
Napoli dh	3	2	2
Kndrk 2b	5	1	0
Quinlan 1b	3	0	0
Mlitzrs ph	1	1	1
KMrls 1b	1	0	0
Mathis c	4	1	1
EAYar ss	5	1	3
Totals	36	9	13
Los Angeles	000	006	300—9
New York	400	000	042—10

No outs when winning run scored.

DP—New York 1, LOB—Los Angeles 9,
New York 8, 2B—Canoo (6), 3B—Matthews Jr. (1), HR—Posada (4). SB—Abreu 2 (11),
Napoli (1), R.Pena (1). S—Mathis. SF—Matthews Jr., H.Matsui.
IP H R ER BB SO

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Los Angeles		New York	
ab	r	h	bi
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Martis stifles Cards

Goes the route, allows five hits

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Shairon Martis pitched a five-hitter and Adam Dunn hit a three-run homer as the Washington Nationals beat the St. Louis Cardinals 6-1 on Saturday.

Dunn connected in the fifth after first baseman Chris Duncan dropped Ryan Zimmerman's foul pop that would have been the last out of the inning.

Martis (3-0) retired the first 14 batters he faced before Yadier Molina grounded a single up the middle in the fifth. The right-hander, who had never gone more than 6 $\frac{1}{3}$ innings, struck out six and walked none in a 110-pitch effort.

Colby Rasmus hit his first career homer for St. Louis.

Zimmerman doubled in the first, extending his Nationals-record hitting streak to 21 games, the longest in the majors this season.

Joel Pineiro (4-1) held Washington scoreless until the fifth. Martis reached on a fielder's choice when he failed on a sac-



ALEX BRANDON/AP

Washington's Shairon Martis went the route, scattering five hits, as the Nationals beat the St. Louis Cardinals 6-1 on Saturday.

fice attempt, and went to third on Cristian Guzman's single to right. Nick Johnson followed with a sacrifice fly to deep center that Rick Ankiel caught before stumbling into the wall.

Zimmerman singled to left in an at-bat prolonged when Duncan dropped a foul pop near the right-field stands and Dunn hit his seventh homer, a shot to right field. It was his fourth career homer off Pineiro in 16 at-bats.

Rasmus hit Martis' first pitch of the seventh inning into the right-field stands to cut it to 4-1.

Pineiro allowed four runs, only one of which was earned, and seven hits in seven innings.

Washington added two runs in the ninth. Austin Kearns hit an RBI triple past the diving Ankiel, then scored on Anderson Hernandez's single to center.

Notes: St. Louis 1B Albert Pujols was held out of the starting lineup because of a planned day off following Friday night's game. ... It was the first complete-game victory for a Nationals pitcher since Aug. 15, 2006, when Pedro Astacio beat Atlanta. ... Washington reliever Joe Beimel, on the DL since April 21 with a left hip flexor strain, pitched an inning in a rehab assignment with Class A Potomac on Friday night.

That was more than enough

Lilly strikes out 10, helps himself with a two-run double

The Associated Press

CHICAGO — Ted Lilly struck out 10 over eight innings and hit a two-run double, powering the Chicago Cubs to a 6-1 victory over the Florida Marlins on Saturday.

Ryan Theriot homered for the second day in a row and Derrek Lee added a solo shot for the Cubs, who won their second straight after losing seven of nine.

Lilly (3-2) allowed a run and five hits with no walks, giving the bullpen a much-needed rest after Cubs relievers pitched 11 $\frac{1}{3}$ innings over the previous three games.

Aaron Heilman struck out the side in the ninth.

Anibal Sanchez (1-3) gave up six runs and nine hits over four innings for Florida.

Hanley Ramirez went 0-for-4 with two strikeouts in his return to the Marlins' starting lineup. Ramirez entered Friday's game in a double switch for his first appearance since being hit on the right hand in New York on Monday.

Theriot, who also tripled, had gone 620 at-bats without a homer before his grand slam in Friday's 8-6 victory. Then in his first at-bat on a windy Saturday afternoon, he lifted a 1-0 fastball over the left-field wall to give Chicago a 2-0 lead in the first.

Mike Fontenot also had a RBI single in the first, and Lilly extended the Cubs' lead to 5-0 when he doubled off the right-field wall in the third. Lee went deep in the fourth.

That was more than enough

support for Lilly, who earned his first career victory over Florida after going 0-4 with a 5.53 ERA in his first five starts against the Marlins. The Cubs are the only major league team Lilly hasn't beaten — or faced.

Lilly breezed through the first four innings before allowing a solo homer to Cody Ross in the fifth, snapping his 18-inning home scoreless streak to start the season. Lilly also allowed leadoff singles in the sixth and seventh, but worked his way out of trouble both times.

Sanchez became the latest Marlins pitcher to struggle. Florida starters have gone a team-record 15 straight games without a victory, going a combined 0-6 during that time.

With third baseman Aramis Ramirez still out of the lineup (left calf) and outfielder Milton Bradley getting a day off, Chicago's struggling offense got help from some unlikely sources. The Cubs improved to 12-1 when scoring at least four runs.

Theriot, a slap-hitting shortstop, has just nine career homers in 1,356 at-bats. He had just seven RBIs this season until driving in six in the past two games.

Lilly entered with a career .139 batting average in 165 at-bats. He just missed his first career homer, sandwiching the double between two ugly strikeouts.

Even Lee's power came as a surprise. The cleanup hitter entered batting .205 with just one homer and 10 RBIs in 78 at-bats. He ended up 1-for-4 with three strikeouts.

NL roundup

Got edge? Mets do in victory over Philadelphia

The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — The New York Mets had an edge — on the scoreboard, where it matters most.

Daniel Murphy hit a two-run homer and Mike Pelfrey pitched 5 $\frac{1}{3}$ effective innings as the Mets beat the Philadelphia Phillies 7-4 on Friday night in the first meeting between the NL East rivals.

Before the game, general manager Omar Minaya avoided a potential firestorm by backing off comments he made Thursday that the Mets lacked an edge.

"Let's be clear: We have an edge," Minaya said Friday night. "Our edge is different from maybe other teams. There's different definitions of edge or leadership. We play the game different from other guys. Some guys are serious. Some guys are happy. Some guys are blue collar."

Pelfrey (3-0) allowed three runs and seven hits. He also chipped in with two RBIs, doubling his career total.

J.J. Putz, who blew a one-run lead in a loss to Florida on Wednesday, pitched a scoreless eighth. Francisco Rodriguez finished for his fifth save.

"I guess we had an edge tonight," Mets

manager Jerry Manuel said. "I feel good about how we approached the game. We have to bring that level of intensity and focus every night no matter who we play."

Chase Utley hit his eighth homer for the Phillies, who got another poor outing from a starter. Chan Ho Park (0-1) gave up seven runs, eight hits and six walks in 4 $\frac{2}{3}$ innings.

The Mets jumped on Park early, taking a 5-0 lead after three innings. Murphy hit a two-run homer in the first, Pelfrey and Omir Santos had sacrifice flies in the second, and Santos added one in the third.

Giants 3, Rockies 2: Randy Johnson yielded four hits and struck out nine over seven scoreless innings in his 297th victory. Johnson (2-2) struck out the first five batters and retired the next 11 overall in his second straight dominant home start for the Giants, who've won nine of 12.

Chris Iannetta homered to lead off the eighth, and Todd Helton added a run-scoring infield single before Giants closer Brian Wilson struck out Ryan Spilborghs with the bases loaded. Wilson pitched the ninth for his sixth save.

Reds 4, Pirates 0: Bronson Arroyo

bounced back from his worst start of the season to limit host Pittsburgh to four singles over eight innings, and slumping Brandon Phillips homered as the Reds ran the Pirates' scoreless streak to 22 innings.

Arroyo (4-1) and reliever Francisco Cordero combined to give up five singles in the Reds' fourth shutout victory of the season.

Cardinals 6, Nationals 2: Albert Pujols hit one of visiting St. Louis' season-high four home runs, backing Todd Wellemeyer's seven effective innings.

Chris Duncan and Ryan Ludwick connected off Jordan Zimmermann in the rookie right-hander's first career loss. Joe Thurston later added his first major league home run for St. Louis, which has won three in a row and nine of 11.

Wellemeyer (2-2) allowed two runs on six hits, walked two and struck out three.

Cubs 8, Marlins 6: Ryan Theriot hit a grand slam in the sixth, helping host Chicago overcome Rich Harden's wildness.

Theriot, a slap-hitting shortstop, pulled Burke Badenhop's 0-1 pitch into the second row of the left-field bleachers for a 6-5 lead. It was Theriot's eighth home run and first grand slam in 1,351 career at-bats.

Diamondbacks 5, Brewers 2: Pinch-

hitter Tony Clark's two-run double highlighted visiting Arizona's four-run eighth.

This time it was the Brewers' bullpen that failed to hold a lead. Milwaukee rallied for four runs in the seventh to beat Arizona on Thursday night.

Braves 7, Astros 2: Jeff Francoeur hit a two-run homer and drove in another run as the Braves spoiled Mike Hampton's return to Atlanta, where he spent six injury-laden years. Hampton (1-2) drew loud boos in pregame warmups, before each of his two at-bats and as he was removed from the game in the decisive fifth inning.

Derek Lowe (3-1) won a game delayed by rain for 2 hours, 2 minutes after the seventh inning.

Dodgers 1, Padres 0: Russell Martin drew a bases-loaded walk with two outs in the ninth to win it for host Los Angeles. Jake Peavy, who came in 13-2 lifetime against the Dodgers with a 2.39 ERA, allowed two hits and a walk over eight innings. Duaner Sanchez (1-1) gave up a leadoff single and two walks to load the bases for Martin, who fouled off several two-strike pitches before being walked on a 3-2 pitch.

Jonathan Broxton (3-0) pitched a perfect ninth inning for the victory.

SPORTS



**Goosen, Watson lead
Tiger by one after
two rounds, Page 26**

THE 135TH KENTUCKY DERBY

■ 50-1 shot Mine That Bird kicks it into high gear down the stretch for a stunning victory

■ Friesan Fire, who became the favorite after I Want Revenge was scratched, ran a distant 18th

Bird is the word



The Associated Press

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Mine That Bird dug up a miracle for a stunning victory in the Kentucky Derby with a dynamic run through the mud at Churchill Downs on Saturday.

The 3-year-old colt and jockey Calvin Borel found room along the rail deep in the straight and then pulled away for a $6\frac{1}{2}$ -length triumph to give the 50-1 long shot one of the biggest upsets in the 135-year history of the Run for the Roses.

It was the largest margin of victory in the Derby since Assault won by eight lengths in 1946.

Barbaro won in 2006 by $6\frac{1}{2}$ lengths.

The Derby victory was the second in three years for Borel, who used a similar run to send Street Sense to the winner's circle in 2007.

Borel raised his right arm in triumph as he crossed the wire, and trainer Chip Woolley hopped to hoist the trophy.

The trainer from New Mexico broke his right leg in a motorcycle accident over the winter and drove his colt 21 hours to Churchill Downs.

"They'll know who I am now," Woolley said from underneath his massive black cowboy hat.

Mine That Bird joins Giacomo, who won in 2005, as one of the most unlikely victors.

Mine That Bird covered the $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles in 2:02.66 and paid \$103.20 to win.

The payout was the second largest in Derby history behind Donerail (\$184.90) in 1913.

Pioneerof the Nile held off Musket Man for second, but neither was a match for the unheralded colt from New Mexico.

Friesan Fire, who became the favorite after I Want Revenge was scratched hours earlier, finished a distant 18th in the 19-horse field.

Jockey Calvin Borel is tall in the stirrups after winning the Kentucky Derby at Churchill Downs aboard Mine That Bird on Saturday afternoon.

ED REINKE/AP

Wade pours in 41 as Heat force Hawks to Game 7 Page 25

